Salamat to serve as MILF's chief peace negotiator

Story below, Col. 1

IN *today's issue*

- **Kobe charged with rape**
  SPORTS /A19
- **Rico J. Puno out of the wilds**
  Sunday Inquirer Magazine

PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER *Sunday*
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

July 20, 2003 ★★ 110 pages / 12 sections / vol. 18 / no. 222 P15

IN *today's issue*

- **Way to happiness**
  PEOPLE AT WORK /K18
- **3 veteran actors die**
  METRO /A17
- **Job Market**
  SECTION K

SHADOWY FORECAST: Roxas Boulevard along Manila Bay is a picturesque sight shortly before a heavy downpour drenches the metropolis on Saturday.

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Cool it, officers advised

Reyes warns agitators of restive young soldiers

By Julie S. Alipala, *PDI Mindanao Bureau* **and TJ Burgonio** *in Manila*

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Keep your cool. And lose your anonymity.

Restive Army officers in Basilan and Sulu—who comprise the majority of disgruntled members of the Philippine Military Academy Class of 1994 and 1995—have been told by a ranking general in the field not to resort to drastic measures, because these would be self-destructive.

Maj. Gen. Trifonio Salazar, commander of the Army's 1st Infantry Division that covers Western Mindanao, including Sulu and Basilan, also urged the officers to come out in the open.

Most of the complaining officers, who have identified themselves as the Concerned Army Officers of Sulu, are under Salazar's command.

In Camp Aguinaldo, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes cautioned former military officials against stirring up restive officers into mounting a coup against the Macapagal administration.

Without naming names, Reyes said it was all right for these officials to give advice to active junior officers, but said they should refrain from "agitating them" in an outright attempt to seize power—such as what happened in the late 1980s.

Reyes was reacting to reports that Sen. Gregorio "Gringo" Honasan, the leader of coup attempts in 1986, 1987 and 1989, had been acting as adviser to a group of disgruntled captains from the Army and the Marines.

"They should stop agitating our junior officers. It's not good. We've been through a lot of coup attempts. We gained nothing from those," Reyes told the INQUIRER.

Salazar said hiding under anonymity would not solve anything.

"They (the officers) can then put their

COOL/A15

'PEACE IS AT HAND'

MILF OKs Salamat to head peace panel

By Edwin O. Fernandez and Charlie C. Señase
PDI Mindanao Bureau

COTABATO CITY—The central committee of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front has decided to allow MILF chair Salamat Hashim to serve as chief negotiator when Malaysia-brokered peace talks resume between the Philippine government and the separatist group.

This was announced yesterday by MILF political affairs chief Ghazali Jaafar, who also said Murad Ebrahim, the rebel group's military commander, would remain in the MILF peace panel as Salamat's deputy.

Jaafar said MILF leaders convened in Maguindanao late Friday after the government stayed the arrest warrants issued recently against Salamat and nine others in connection with the bomb attacks in Davao.

President Macapagal-Arroyo also ordered the military to halt its offensives against the MILF.

"Peace is at hand," she reiterated in a radio address yesterday, and announced a package of concessions to the MILF, including the suspension of arrest warrants and corresponding cash rewards for its leaders—a key rebel demand—and the grant of safety passes to allow rebel negotiators to travel to Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia for the peace talks.

"These are very welcome developments," Jaafar said, adding that "admittedly," the warrants and the government offensives were "among the main obstacles [to] the resumption of the peace talks."

Jaafar said that during the

MILF/A16

EDWIN BACASMAS

NOTHING BUT BLUE SKIES
For the first graduates of the first Maritime Academy of Asia and the Pacific, it's time to show the world that the Filipino as seafarer is world class. President Macapagal said as much during her speech at the graduation rites held in Kamaya Point, Barangay Alas-asin, Mariveles, Bataan.

Palace tells Ebdane: Find al-Ghozi or you are out

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and TJ Burgonio

FIND Al-Ghozi or you're out.

This was President Macapagal-Arroyo's stern warning to Philippine National Police chief Hermogenes Ebdane yesterday even as she ordered the reward for the recapture of the fugitive Indonesian bomber, Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi, doubled to P10 million.

Ebdane, whose resignation is being demanded by various sectors following Al-Ghozi's escape from detention in Camp Crame last Monday, was being given another chance by the President to redeem himself by recapturing Al-Ghozi, said presidential spokesperson Ignacio Bunye.

But his replacement "remains a possibility" if he fails in his mission, Bunye said.

"I think General Ebdane understands the implications if he fails to find Al-Ghozi," he said.

After denying it the other day, Bunye yesterday confirmed that Ebdane had offered his resignation to the President but she refused it.

Ms Macapagal instead appointed Ebdane to head a special task force that will "exclusively" hunt for Al-Ghozi.

No deadline was given for Ebdane to accomplish his mission.

Bunye appealed to those calling for Ebdane's resignation to give the PNP chief "a chance to take advantage of the opportunity given him by the President to catch Al-Ghozi and redeem his image."

PALACE/A15

KC is new MTV vj, PDI 'Super' columnist

JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

KC CONCEPCION: Am very happy with my MTV work. I can go completely crazy and still be doing my job right.

By Tim Yap
Contributor

THE MEGA'S debutante of the year, KC Concepcion, just signed up with MTV as a guest VJ. Plus, she will start writing a column for this paper's Saturday Special Super section the first Saturday of August.

The past few days had seen KC shuffling in and out of the MTV studios, taping episodes for Lokal and doing interviews for the music channel. She even got to interview visiting foreign artist Duncan Sheik, (with whom she has bonded quite naturally) also as a special for the station.

"I definitely am very happy with my work at MTV because I can go completely crazy and still be doing my job right," she said as she sipped her fruit shake.

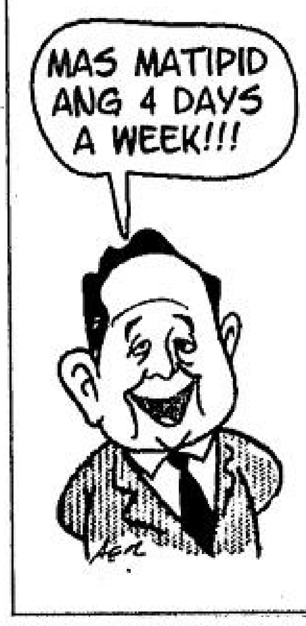
She had rushed into the restaurant for the appointment with the INQUIRER, saying, "I just had the most hectic day of my life. Today I witnessed my 28-year-old friend give birth, had tapings right after, then recorded a jingle for this new endorsement."

The reason she is in such a flurry of activities these days is that she is set to leave the country at the end of the month. "I go to Los Angeles for a couple of weeks, then off to Paris after."

So during her last few weeks in Manila, she's spending endless shoots for new commercials—from shampoo to feminine wash to toothpaste, etc.

Countless movie and television offers were hurled her way, but she chose to go

KC/A16



MAS MATIPID ANG 4 DAYS A WEEK!!!

House works more for less hours; saves more

By Volt Contreras

THINK of ways by which the cash-strapped government can save money.

You'd hardly expect the House of Representatives and its ever-controversial pork barrel to get into the picture, right?

Well, think again. According to Speaker Jose de Venecia, the four-day work week that the House started implementing on June 2 has already resulted in significant cuts in the cham-

HOUSE/A16

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Southern Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao will cloudly skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of Luzon will be partly cloudy to cloudy with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/07/20/03

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Cloudy With Rains
Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Roxas	Cloudy With Rains
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Cebu	Cloudy With Rains
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Tacloban	Cloudy with Rains
Clark Zone	Partly Cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Cloudy With Rains	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Cloudy With Rains	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Widespread Rains	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

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Second FRONTPAGE

ABADILLA 5 CONVICT REACTS

High court ruling 'killing me again'

By Juliet Javellana and Philip Tubeza

"PARANG pinapatay na naman nila ako (It's like they're killing me again)."

This was how death convict Lenido Lumanog reacted to the Supreme Court's rejection of his request to be allowed to recuperate from his kidney transplant at his home instead of the New Bilibid Prisons.

Lumanog's lawyer yesterday wrote to Bureau of Corrections Director Dionisio Santiago to let Lumanog stay at the National Kidney Transplant Institute, while he files a motion for reconsideration on the SC decision.

"Masamang-masama ang loob ko. Buhay ang pinag-uusapan dito (I really feel bad. We are talking about a life here)," he said during a telephone interview yesterday from the NKTI in Quezon City, where he has been confined since August 2002.

Lumanog and four others—Augusto Santos, Cesar Fortuna, Rameses de Jesus and Joel de Jesus—were sentenced to death by a Quezon City regional trial court on Aug. 11, 1999 for the killing of ex-military intelligence Col. Rolando Abadilla in 1996. The INQUIRER, which wrote a series of reports on them, dubbed the convicts as the "Abadilla 5."

In their earlier petition before the Supreme Court asking for a retrial of the case, the Abadilla 5 said they were forced to confess to the crime after being subjected to severe torture by police officers. Their death penalty case is currently under automatic review by the SC.

Last Tuesday the SC rejected Lumanog's plea to be allowed to recuperate at home. Lumanog underwent a kidney transplant at the NKTI last April.

Lumanog said he was pained that the SC did not even try to verify the actual conditions at the NBP before deciding on his petition for home stay.

"Sa NBP (hospital), halu-halo ang sakit. Sa isang ward, 100 ang tao. Six inches lang ang pagitan ng mga kama (There are so many diseases at the NBP hospital. There are 100 people in one ward. There is only a six-inch space between hospital beds)," Lumanog said.

He said he was transferred to NKTI precisely because the NBP hospital itself made the request.

As a kidney transplantee, he needs to stay in an isolated room to avoid infection and complications.

"Since it was the SC which allowed his transfer from the NBP to the NKTI, (Lumanog) cannot be returned to the NBP without a corresponding order of the SC. Until there is such an order, we respectfully request that the status quo of his confinement at the NKTI be maintained," said Lumanog's lawyer Soliman Santos.

The July 15 SC resolution denying Lumanog's motion for home stay did not order the patient's return to the NBP.

Should the SC order Lumanog's return to prison, Santos asked Santiago to ensure that the convict gets the necessary care.

Among the requirements Lumanog would require for his post-transplant maintenance are anti-rejection drugs for life, a weekly checkup, avoidance of crowded places to avoid infection, staying in a clean and healthy environment, and isolation from any potential source of infection, including at the NBP hospital.

LUMANOG after his kidney transplant on April 26 JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Cops seize bomb materiel in South

KORONADAL CITY—Authorities discovered bomb-making materiel in a room being rented by a suspected separatist rebel in a building here, just before a cease-fire with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front took effect, officials said Saturday.

Members of the police Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG) backed by soldiers found three kilos of potassium nitrate, bomb canisters, fully assembled switch panels, blasting caps, electrical wiring, bullets and three empty liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) tanks in the room being rented by Abusama Ubas on Friday, regional police director Chief Supt. Manuel Raval said.

Raval said the raiders also seized videotapes bearing labels of the MILF, which had agreed to a ceasefire with the government late Friday to pave the way for peace talks in Malaysia.

A picture of Ubas posing with an M-16 rifle was also found, but the suspect was not around.

Raval said Ubas may have been involved in the series of bombings in Koronadal in recent months that claimed at least 16 lives, as well as similar bombings in General Santos City that left over a dozen dead.

He said the bomb that ripped through the public market here on May 10 had been fashioned out of an 81-mm mortar shell filled with potassium nitrate and blasting caps hidden under an empty LPG tank.

MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu, however, denied that Ubas, a native of Buluan, Maguindanao, was a member of the group. *Edwin O. Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau; AFP*

What makes suicide bombers tick? Pinoy officials to find out

By Philip C. Tubeza

A GROUP of Filipino officials is flying to Israel today to study suicide bombing.

No, not how to strap on explosives, but "why suicide bombers tick."

"Magiging masaya 'to (this is going to be fun). We will learn how to detect suicide bombers," said Justice Undersecretary Jose Calida, delegation head, said.

The participants will attend a week-long seminar entitled "Tackling the Phenomenon of Suicide Bombers," which includes a demonstration by Israeli security forces of their capabilities, he added.

Calida said the 14-man Philippine delegation consists of officials from the Department of Justice, the National Intelligence Coordinating Agency, the PNP-Special Action Force, and the military and police counter-terrorism intelligence teams.

The Filipino party will stay in a kibbutz, or a community, near Tel Aviv. It is the third group that Israel has invited to the seminar. The first two were from India and Pakistan.

To be discussed in the seminar are: global and Middle East terrorism, development of suicide terrorism, profile of suicide terrorists and the explosives they use, the public's role in confronting suicide terrorism, and Israel's security complex dealing with crime management and fighting terror.

The Filipinos will visit sites of terror attacks, including bus stations, restaurants and Hebrew University. They will also witness first-hand how Israelis protect their religious sites.

Israel is the "Holy Land" for both Christians and Jews. Likewise, the Dome of the Rock is located in Jerusalem. The 7th-century mosque is the third holiest site for Muslims, after Mecca and Medina in Saudi Arabia.

The group will meet with Israel's Justice Minister Tomy Lapid and some foreign affairs officials to discuss diplomatic and legal tools against terrorist organizations.

While the "phenomenon" of suicide bombing had not reached the Philippines, Calida remarked, "it's better to be prepared."

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Cops want more benefits, too

A RANKING police general yesterday batted for the inclusion of policemen in a proposed law that would give additional benefits to soldiers on combat duty.

Party-list Rep. Kim Bernardo-Lokin of Citizens Battle Against Corruption and author of House Bill No. 5734 or "Saludo sa Sundalo," said PNP Deputy Director General Reynaldo Velasco, NCRPO chief, approached her during a barangay meeting in Quezon City to say he was pleased with her bill granting additional benefits to soldiers on combat duty in the form of discounts.

"But Gen. Velasco asked why only the soldiers? I joked that they had let Al-Ghozi escape and already had plenty of benefits. But he insisted the PNP wanted a similar measure for the policemen," Lokin said.

She said Velasco would be sending Police Director Hercules Cataluna, PNP director for plans, to her office to help in drafting a similar measure for policemen.

The soldiers' bill, which is pending in the House committee on defense, would entitle military men on combat duty to discounts in establishments like senior citizens. *Cynthia D. Balana*

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GMA scores 21-11 on last Sona compliance

NAGA CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo positively complied with 21 items but failed in 11 of the 32 commitments that she made in her last State of the Nation Address (Sona), according to the House legislator given the task of evaluating the President's performance before her next report later this month.

The 11 failures will not "unmake" the President but neither will the 21 "positive compliances" make her, said Albay Rep. Jose Salceda, the chair of the House oversight committee.

The committee's report will be read when the President delivers her next Sona at the opening of Congress on July 28.

He said the "positive compliances" related to the building of Ms Macapagal's so-called "Strong Republic."

PRESIDENT MACAPAGAL

But Salceda said he doubted the administration has succeeded in achieving any of the three basic tenets of a strong republic: antiterrorism, anti-poverty and anti-corruption.

Among the major failures of the Macapagal administration, he cited power rates, graft and corruption, urban poor housing and classrooms in every barangay.

He said the government's performance was particularly dismal with respect to the commitment to build classrooms in every barangay as not a single classroom has been built since last year.

Salceda said the dismal implementation of the urban poor housing program was reflected in the number of housing units built, which was 397 units this year, compared to 83,000 units in 2002.

But he said the committee had cited the exemplary performance of the administration in "barangay energization."

Salceda said it was "the best performance in history."

In last year's Sona, the President vowed to bring electricity to 1,500 barangays nationwide in one year.

Salceda said the administration also did well in agriculture, generating short-term jobs for 1.4 million in the sector.

He also gave the government a satisfactory rating in housing for agricultural workers.

Salceda predicted that the economy would "achieve vibrancy" as spending for the forthcoming national elections is expected to stimulate the domestic market.
Juan Escandor Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

PCGG no closer to 'Irene account'

By Dona Pazzibugan

AFTER two years, the government still cannot confirm the existence of the alleged $13.2-billion Irene Marcos-Araneta Swiss account.

The Presidential Commission on Good Government on Friday said it was still pursuing leads.

"With some prudence, we can only say that the matter is not closed as far as we are concerned. But we can't tell you that we are investigating the Irene Araneta account or an Irene Araneta account," PCGG Commissioner Ruben Carranza said. He admitted that documentation on the supposed account was "not extensive" enough.

He confirmed, though, that the youngest child of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos had a bank account in Germany.

In early 2001, the INQUIRER reported that Marcos-Araneta kept a $13.2-billion account with the Union Bank of Switzerland (UBS) and that in February of that year, she tried to transfer part of the money to the Deutsche Bank in Dusseldorf, Germany.

The transfer apparently did not push through, and the Deutsche account was closed.

"We're confident that there's more where it came from," said Commissioner Vyva Aguirre. She did not elaborate.

A team of PCGG and Department of Justice officials went to Dusseldorf in June 2001 to investigate the account. Former Solicitor General Frank Chavez, who disclosed the existence of the supposed Irene Araneta account, joined the team.

Chavez had claimed a substantial portion of the money was still in UBS, but the rest had been moved to the British Virgin Islands and the Cayman Islands.

Without giving details, Carranza said the PCGG had sought the help of the German police on the matter, and that based on the resulting leads, also sought the help of the Hong Kong police.

Carranza said the HK police investigation led them to Edna Camcam, mistress of the late Fabian Ver, Marcos' chief of staff.

Camcam is facing forfeiture cases here for ill-gotten wealth.

The Supreme Court on Tuesday forfeited in favor of government $682 million in Marcos deposits found stashed away in several Swiss banks. The high court ruled that these were ill-gotten wealth.

Chavez urged the government to pursue the Irene Araneta account, insisting the $682 million recovered Marcos assets was "loose change" compared to the $13.2 billion account.

'Sweet talk,' activists tag Imee's denial

By Volt Contreras

SWEET talk from a senatorial wannabe.

Victims of marital law atrocities had this to say about claims made Friday by Ilocos Norte Rep. Imee Marcos that she had not blocked the House bill indemnifying people who suffered under her father's iron rule. Selda secretary general Marie Hilao Enriquez strongly refuted Marcos' remarks, holding the congresswoman responsible for the long delayed approval of House Bill No. 4535.

House leaders earlier announced they would rush the passage of the bill that allots a P10-billion compensation package for the victims. The money would be drawn from the P36 billion in frozen Marcos assets that the Supreme Court awarded to the government in a landmark ruling last week.

The congresswoman admitted in a radio interview that she was against the compensation bill, but denied actively blocking its passage.

Enriquez said the bill had been approved on second reading on April 17 last year, but Rep. Marcos succeeded in having it "recalled" to the committee on rules.

"The bill should have been passed last year but she questioned its early passage," Enriquez told the INQUIRER.

Marcos then "mobilized" other Ilocano congressmen, Salacnib Baterina and Roque Ablan, to raise various objections, Enriquez recalled.

"She is denying this now because of the approaching elections, and it's time for sweet talk," Enriquez added, alluding to Marcos' rumored plan to run for senator in the 2004 elections.

Baterina and Ablan, Enriquez said, argued mainly on three points: that the proposed law was a "class legislation" violating the equal protection clause of the Constitution; that it "appropriates money that does not yet exist" pending the court decision; and that it "delegates legislative functions" to agencies tasked to determine the beneficiaries without sufficient guidelines set.

In earlier interviews, the Selda leader also chided the so-called Ilocano bloc in the House for its nearly successful attempt to make the bill "applicable to all human rights victims, regardless of regime."

Selda objected to this amendment, she explained, because it would ultimately gloss over specific abuses committed during the Marcos dictatorship.

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Policegate

EDITORIAL

AS it turns out, Indonesian terrorist Fathur Rohman al-Ghozi and his two Filipino companions did not need a key to slip out of their detention cell in Camp Crame and walk to freedom. All they needed was to move the defective steel gate barring their way in a certain direction, and it would open.

"We can attribute this escape not only to the human element but also to the structural defect of the detention cell," police Director Eduardo Matillano of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group said on Friday.

"I saw (the gate) when I investigated," said Interior Secretary Joey Lina. "I was really shocked as well." Lina, the Cabinet official in charge of the entire Philippine National Police, added: the set of conditions in Crame that allowed al-Ghozi et al. to escape could "be plain stupidity (or) it can be a grand conspiracy."

Actually, the answer is both simpler and harder to resolve. The escape happened because of the prevailing police culture, where complacency is easy prey to corruption. In his frantic attempt to persuade the public (and by extension the officials of the US Embassy) that the escape would not impact on the forthcoming visit of US President George W. Bush, Presidential Spokesperson Ignacio Bunye said on Thursday: "We… find no reason for canceling the Bush visit because of this incident. It is a freak event." But the truth is, it isn't. The escape forms part of a pattern; it reveals a structural defect in the country's police culture.

It is in this unflattering light that PNP Director General Hermogenes Ebdane's command responsibility for the security fiasco—the worst setback in Asia for the international anti-terror coalition since the bombing in Bali, Indonesia—must be understood.

Al-Ghozi was the country's most important detainee. Even if the Macapagal administration had not tied its fate to American leadership and largesse (US participation in the peace talks with the Moro Islamic Liberation Front is a recent and revealing example), the confessed terrorist's arrest and detention was proof that President Macapagal-Arroyo was someone other leaders could do business with.

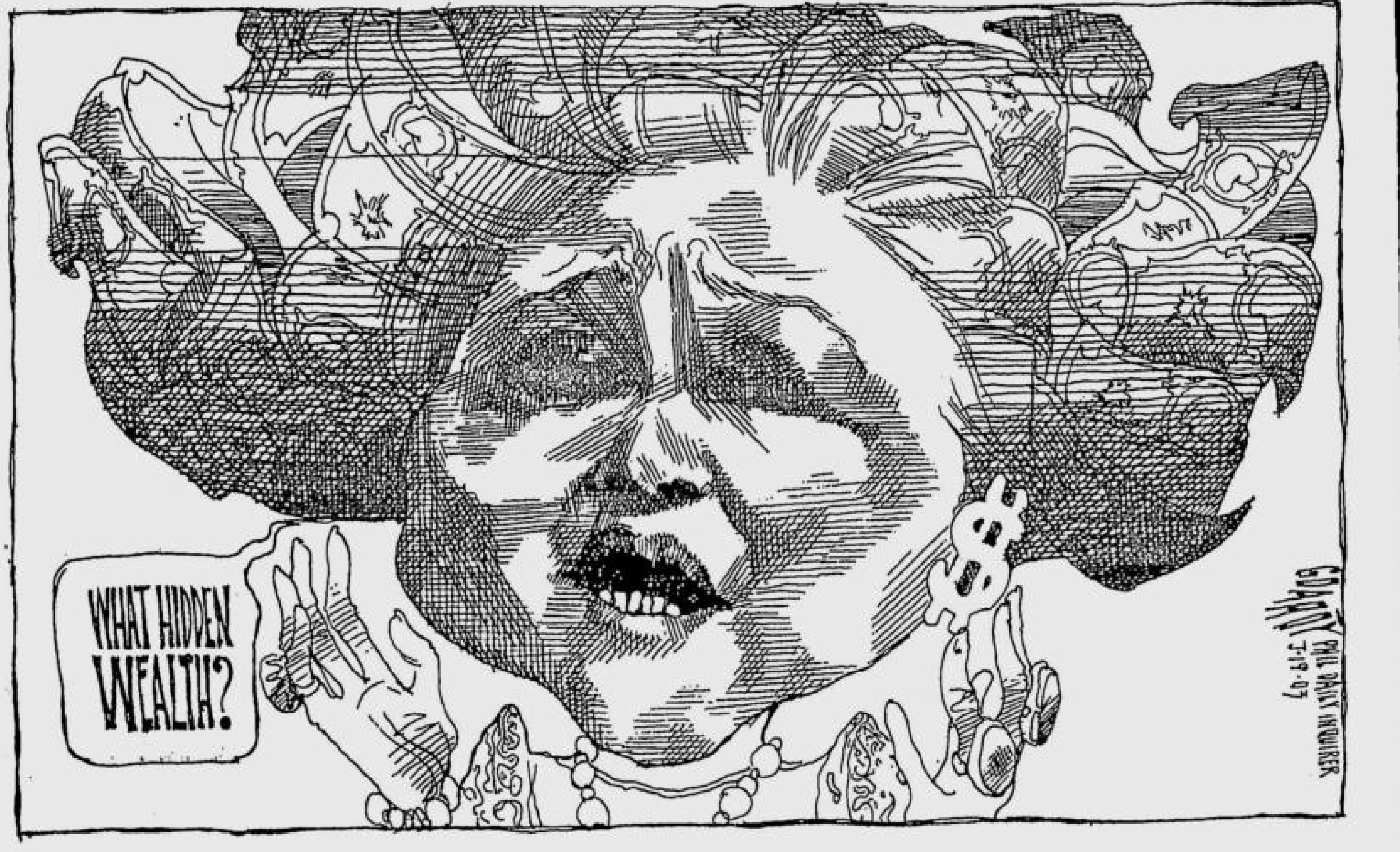
But given the government's embrace of its newly rediscovered role as US strategic partner, Al-Ghozi's detention was the diplomatic equivalent of money in the bank. It allowed the President to negotiate better terms for the Philippines—from provisions in Bush's supplemental budget to participation in Iraq peacekeeping, to a pull-out-all-the-stops state dinner at the White House. It was proof that the President was someone other leaders should do business with.

Newly disclosed details about Al-Ghozi's detention, however, show that he was treated as though he posed no threat at all. The same detention center from which two high-profile detainees escaped under similarly suspicious circumstances in the last 13 months was not inspected or reinforced; how else explain the non-discovery of the defective steel gate? Guard Ronald Palmares, who said he had not received any training in handling detainees, was posted to the detention center barely two weeks after graduating from the Cordillera Administrative Region Training School. Most tellingly, an ex-Abu Sayyaf detainee who had offered to turn state witness, Abu Ali, was hired as a "utility boy," and allowed access to the cells.

It is now likely that it was Ali who showed Al-Ghozi, Abdulmukin Ong Edris and Omar Opik Lasal the defective steel gate, and how to open it with ease. (On Friday, Ali showed reporters how.)

If Al-Ghozi was money in the bank, then Ebdane breached his fiduciary responsibilities. By failing to ensure that a high-profile detainee remained in detention, by failing to stamp out the culture of complacency in the porous jails of Camp Crame, Ebdane failed his President and his country. He should resign.

In his defense, he has hinted that his enemies, or those who want his job, may have had something to do with the escape. All the more reason for him to call it a day. He should have known where he is vulnerable, and make provisions accordingly. Al-Ghozi in jail was one such point of vulnerability. If the chief of the national police cannot protect himself from his enemies, how can he protect us from the enemies of the state?



Misreading the Constitution

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

THE RECENT decision of the Supreme Court sustaining the Overseas Absentee Voting Act is, in my humble view, evasive and illogical. It is an inept misreading of the Constitution. It exaggerates the presumption of the constitutionality of statutes. It is unworthy of the highest court in the land.

The law allows Filipino citizens who have migrated to other counties to vote in Philippine elections provided they take an oath to return to this country permanently within three years from exercising that dubious privilege.

The decision makes the law an exception to the enumeration of the suffrage qualifications in Art. V of the Constitution. The justification is the rule in the same article that Congress shall provide for "a system for absentee voting by qualified Filipinos abroad." This is interpreted as waiving the usual residence qualification but not the citizenship and age requirements.

Sec. 1 of Art. V prescribes these qualifications as follows:

"Suffrage may be exercised by all citizens of the Philippines not otherwise disqualified by law who are at least eighteen years of age and who shall have resided in the Philippines for at least one year and in the place wherein they propose to vote for at least six months immediately preceding the election."

The "exception" cited by the majority allows absentee voting by "qualified Filipinos abroad," meaning citizens possessing all the qualifications, including residence. This should include Filipinos at least 18 years of age who are abroad only temporarily, usually for employment reasons.

As overseas workers, these persons have not abandoned their residence in the Philippines and have the intention of returning. This *animus revertendi* does not even have to be sworn to but is implied in the absence of evidence to the contrary. Many of these absentees continue to support their families here and intend to come back after their employment abroad.

The only thing is that they cannot, because of their work and expense constraints, physically return to "the place wherein they propose to vote."

These are the absentee voters to be permitted by the "exception" in the decision. It does not apply to Filipinos who have migrated and thereby abandoned their permanent residence in the Philippines in favor of the country to which they have transferred.

Absentee voting connotes voting outside the Philippines but only by persons possessing the citizenship, age and residence qualifications required by the Constitution. Filipinos who have migrated are not the "qualified Filipinos" who can vote in the Philippines because they are permanent residents elsewhere.

The decision says the migrant's affidavit expresses his intention to return to the Philippines, which means he has not abandoned his residence here. How can he retain his residence here when he has already acquired permanent residence in the foreign state? Even law freshmen know that a person cannot have two residences at the same time.

The definition of "immigration" is well-settled. Black's Law Dictionary calls it "the coming into the country of foreigners for purposes of permanent residence." The Supreme Court has disqualified "green card" holders in the United States from holding public office in the Philippines for lack of the residence requirement. Yet that same tribunal would now relax its own doctrine and allow Filipinos who are permanent residents elsewhere to vote in Philippine elections.

How can Congress and the President (and the Supreme Court as well) be so naïve as to believe that the migrant's sworn promise will be kept? There are no criminal sanctions that can be imposed upon the reneging Filipinos abroad. Can we send our policemen to arrest them and bring them to the Philippines for prosecution and punishment? Disqualifying them from voting again, as the law does, is a foolish and empty threat.

It is not unlikely that these privileged migrants will cast the deciding vote in the presidential elections next year. If they reject the commitment that enabled them to elect the favored candidate, that candidate will have illegally won. The decision says the election will not be flawed because the reneging migrants were qualified to vote when they did. That is what is known as begging the question.

I am disappointed that Chief Justice Davide concurred with the majority. I had expected a more judicious and courageous stance from him. I hesitate to think that he was reluctant to antagonize Congress and President Macapagal-Arroyo by voting against that obviously unconstitutional law. His concurrence was, as I saw it, completely out of character.

Many people suspect that some of those who also sustained the law may have voted against their better judgment as their way of thanking the President for appointing them. That is why I am so impressed by the four justices who dissented and thereby exhibited an objective attitude in testing that law by the touchstone of the Constitution.

My sincere plaudits to Justices Reynato S. Puno, Consuelo Ynares-Santiago, Angelina Sandoval Gutierrez and Romeo Calleja. They have better sense and more guts than their colleagues, and I am glad they are sitting on the Court even if only as its outnumbered members. This does not necessarily make them wrong.

Mission or ambition?

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

ACCORDING to a story I heard, two recruits were asked why they wanted to join the army. The first one said; "Sir, I have no wife, and I love to fight." The second one said: "Sir, I have a wife, and I'm looking for peace."

* * *

The Gospel today (Mk. 6, 30-34) speaks about the vast crowd that flocked to Jesus and his disciples in search for healing and peace. They were "in demand" that they had no opportunity even to eat. What does Jesus do? He tells His disciples to come away by themselves to a deserted place and rest awhile, and themselves, find peace. What? I can almost hear Judas protesting in his head thinking that this withdrawal from the crowd was a bad move, a wrong timing and definitely, an incorrect marketing strategy. Herein lies the difference: Jesus was fired by a mission while Judas was fueled by ambition.

* * *

Why are you working so hard? Why are you all over the place? Is it because you have an agenda, an ambition in life? How about God's agenda and mission in your life? Careful. Ambition can lead you into a lot of hard work to the detriment of your body, your values, your relationships, and yes, your very soul. What will it profit you if you gain the whole world, but in the process and in the end, you lose your health, your family and friends, your good name, your character and your salvation?

* * *

Are you a mission-ary, or an ambition-ary? A mission-ary has God's work and agenda in mind while an ambition-ary has only himself in mind. Consequently, a mission-ary is aware that he is just a recipient of a mission, while an ambition-ary makes up his own mission. A mission-ary's goal is long term. That's why he knows how to pace, how to be patient and how to be persevering. On the other hand, an ambition-ary is all out to get going, and can be relentless and unbending. The bottom line is that a mission-ary is for service, while an ambition-ary is for self-service.

* * *

There are three reasons for Jesus' call to rest a while. The first is practical. The disciples were tired, so they needed physical rest. They needed to slow down, so that they will not have a burn out. There are so many workers of the Lord who are so overworked and have become sickly. The second reason is psychological. We all need space and time to be by ourselves. People need a break, "away from the maddening crowd." Workers of the Lord who feel crowded can end up grouchy and angry, driving away people from the Lord instead of bringing them in. The third reason is spiritual. In a quiet and prayerful atmosphere, a worker of the Lord can recharge his batteries, get his bearings and get inspired again. It is precisely when we immerse ourselves in the presence of God that we are reminded once again that we are loved in spite of, and that we can continue to be His instruments, unworthy that we are. Embraced by God, we realize we are important, but not indispensable, unworthy, but loved tremendously.

* * *

Remember the story about a rooster who would crow in the morning at sunrise? Soon he actually began to believe that his crowing made the sun rise. This made him very proud. But one cloudy day, he crowed, but the sun did not rise. He crowed and crowed, but nothing happened. According to the story, the rooster died exhausted and broken hearted one morning when he crowed and the sun did not rise. Moral of the story? In our work for the Lord, let us continue to be humble mission-aries, and not proud ambition-aries.

* * *

Like the rooster in our story above, there are some of us who actually believe and live as if the world revolved around us. This is not to belittle human efforts, but something is wrong when we work so hard and try so hard that we no longer leave room for grace to operate. Think about it: the world was turning long before you and I were born, and the world will keep on turning long after you and I are gone. Our prayer is that when we finally leave this world, we have already accomplished our mission, and not just pursued our ambition.

* * *

Do you remember the thumb rule in driving? Keep your eyes on the road, your hands on the steering wheel, and to stop when you are sleepy of fatigued. The same applies, too as we travel on in life. We must work, but we must also learn how to stop and rest. And no matter what happens we must stay focused on our mission, especially on Him, the source and the reason of our mission. Let nothing—our successes, achievements, trials, attachments, failures, disappointments and especially ambitions, ever distract us from our mission.

* * *

It is our hope that our Sunday column "Moments" can serve as some kind of a refreshing stop in your busy week. For comments, you can e-mail us at jorbos@manila-online.net

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A Moment with the Lord
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REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

PERHAPS more than any American institution which has touched the lives of many people, none has had a greater impact on our countrymen both economically and socially, than the United States Navy.

According to an article "Filipino American Lives" by Yen Le Espiritu, Temple University Press, Philadelphia, the US Navy began actively recruiting Filipinos as stewards and mess boys as early as 1898. In 1901, President William McKinley issued General Order No. 40 allowing the US Navy to recruit up to 500 Filipinos for the Naval Insular Force. By World War I, there were some 6,000 Pinoys in the US Navy.

Most were assigned as stewards performing the work of domestics, serving as cooks and doing menial jobs such as cleaning up in the galley, the wardroom and living quarters of officers. Even after passing the relevant qualifying examinations, few Filipinos were allowed to transfer to other ratings (duties).

Under the RP-US Military Bases Agreement of 1947, only the US Navy was allowed to recruit Filipinos for its armed forces and during the Korean War, the Navy annually took in up to 2,000 Filipinos, ages 18 to 24. By 1970, there were close to 17,000 Filipinos in the US Navy. Someone mentioned that there were probably more Filipinos in the US Navy than in the Philippine Navy.

For many of our young men, a career in the US Navy was a life-long dream. In a number of communities (and in many families) particularly those close to the US bases (Clark, Subic and Sangley Point), joining the US Navy had become a tradition as well as a badge of distinction. These installations exposed the local people to American wealth, culture and standards of living, generating strong incentive for enlistment. In particular, the monetary incentive for joining was exceptional—the salary of a raw recruit was a lot higher than many in the towns and villages where they came from. There was also the opportunity to gain permanent residency in the United States and with that, eventual citizenship.

My own cousin, Henry Nivera who retired from the Navy and now resides in Titusville, Florida, must have sent in more than 10 applications before he was finally chosen. And for many, it was rough sailing mainly because of the racial issue. Of all the services in the US Armed Forces, the Navy is the most tradition-bound and so it was slow in carrying out changes in its customs and practices. Only in 1973, during the watch of Adm. Elmo Zumwalt Jr., youngest Chief of Naval Operations ever and famous for his Z-gram messages to naval units, were Filipinos given the right to enter any rating for which they qualified. Still, many remained as stewards and probably the most famous of them is Bayani Nelvis, a White House steward during the Monica Lewinsky hearings who testified about "tissues with lipstick and other stains following a meeting between [then-President] Clinton and Monica."

For all the indignities and humiliations suffered by them, the doors which previously were closed, are now wide open for their children as well as grandchildren. A few years ago, while my wife and I were visiting the Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, we struck up a conversation with an Asian-looking cadet. He turned out to be the son of a Filipino who enlisted in the Navy at Sangley Point. He competed for and won an appointment to the Air Force Academy, while an older brother was a midshipman at Annapolis. In a few years' time, they will be holding responsible positions in the US armed forces. My cousin's kids are all highly trained professionals and I am certain this is true for many of the children of other Navy men. The money they send home is probably not counted as part of OFW remittances but there is no doubt it represents a hefty contribution to the national coffers. If you come across modest but comfortable homes in the rural areas, they probably represent OFW or US Navy remittances.

Perhaps the most inspiring saga to come out of this long-standing relationship with the US Navy is the story of Eleanor "Connie" Mariano, a 48-year-old medical doctor who was appointed as chief physician at the White House during the Bush and Clinton years.

Mariano was born at Clark Air Base in Pampanga in 1955. Her father served in the US Navy as a steward along with four other Filipinos who were her *ninongs*. After getting her degree from the Uniformed Services University at Bethesda, Maryland in 1981, she joined the US Navy.

Three years ago, President Clinton promoted Mariano to the rank of Rear Admiral, the highest military position occupied by a Filipino-American woman. At the ceremony honoring her, Mariano told the audience: "I am pleased to stand before you today as proof that Filipino-Americans in the Navy no longer have to go through the kitchen, the back door or the garage. I came to the White House by way of the kitchen. I come from a family of Navy stewards. At that time and for many years, the only way Filipinos were able to serve in the Navy was as stewards."

To her *ninongs* who were present, she said, "Thank you for reminding me daily that I owe my presence here to people like you and my father who paved the way. Thank you for never letting me forget about the qualities of kindness, silent service, loyalty and humility."

She continued, "The Navy meant many things to my family. It meant freedom from poverty, for my father's family was very poor. The Navy meant opportunity to succeed. The Navy meant hope that one day your children would get an education and perhaps boldly dream of becoming doctors or naval officers. The Navy meant all the good things America had to offer."

But this is all a thing of the past: Recruitment of Filipinos into the US Navy ended when the RP-US Bases Agreement was scrapped in 1991.

Better chances for 'preemies'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

THOUGH multiple pregnancies are still unusual and quadruplets (or more) are rare, their number has been increasing mainly because of the use of fertility drugs. These drugs, which stimulate the production and release of ova, can sometimes result in the fertilization of more than one ovum at one time.

Fortunately, medical advances have also caught up with the increase of multiple pregnancies and births. Better monitoring techniques now allow doctors to closely follow the development of the fetuses and anticipate problem areas. Neonatology, a specialization that deals with the care of prematurely-born and very sick infants, has also been able to "push the envelope" as far as ensuring the survival of "preemies" goes. Such that prematurely born babies who, decades ago, would have been written off, are now able to survive and overcome the odds. Still, "preemies," especially if they were part of a multiple pregnancy, face many difficulties in the immediate aftermath of their birth and on through their childhood.

One of the more positive developments in her field, says neonatologist Dr. Carina Cruz Quimbo, is the use of ante-natal steroids that, taken 48 hours before delivery, can prevent breathing problems in premature infants. These babies, says Dr. Quimbo, are very susceptible to collapsed lungs because their lung tissues often lack surfactants that make it possible for their lungs to expand and take in air. Preemies whose mothers took the ante-natal steroids, says Dr. Quimbo, usually no longer need respirators to breathe normally. "They usually turn out all right."

* * *

DR. QUIMBO has no data to back up her thesis, but from her clinical experience she observes that the number of premature deliveries here has been increasing.

Dr. Quimbo is a consultant on neonatology with the Philippine Children's Medical Center, Medical City, Lourdes Hospital, Capitol Medical Center, East Avenue Medical Center and the MCU Hospital, where the Calisaan quadruplets were rushed after their emergency birth. She cannot tell exactly why in her observation more mothers are delivering prematurely, but concedes that poor pre-natal care may be a factor. Dr. Analyn Coden, an obstetrician-gynecologist, says proper nutrition plays a big role in the successful outcome of any pregnancy since, she says, "anemia and undernourishment are triggers for premature delivery." An infection can also cause contractions before the 37th week of gestation, adds Dr. Coden.

"We really need to create greater public awareness," says Dr. Quimbo. First, women must know that they should seek good pre-natal care as soon as possible after they learn they are pregnant. Then, they must see their doctors or health caregivers (such as midwives) regularly (once a month is the norm, though increased visits may be necessary for a multiple pregnancy and on the last few weeks before delivery) so that potential problems can be identified and measures and preparations taken.

"A women who experiences contractions before her due date should come to a hospital immediately," Dr. Quimbo counsels. There, she would be given drugs to put a stop to her contractions and thereby delay delivery as long as possible. Sometimes, the mother's cervix may even be sewn shut to hold the endangered fetus. Ante-natal steroids could then be administered to forestall major health problems for the premature infant.

* * *

THERE'S a saying that goes: "A woman who's giving birth has one foot in the grave." Though medical advances, particularly widespread pre-natal care, have made pregnancy and childbirth much less life-threatening than before, the fact remains, as a doctor-friend once told me, that "a delivery can go wrong at any time, just like that," snapping his fingers for emphasis.

This is why pre-natal care, and the regular monitoring of the mother's vital signs as well as that of the fetus she's bearing, is necessary for a safe delivery, for both mother and child.

In areas far from hospitals or medical centers, regular pre-natal care can help midwives or community health workers identify mothers with potential problems (high blood pressure, anemia, or a narrow birth passage) and move them nearer to a doctor or hospital as their delivery date approaches.

In some poor countries, aid agencies hit upon an ingenious solution to appalling maternal mortality rates. They made available makeshift "ambulances" fashioned from a wooden platform mounted on a bicycle, which could transport women with delivery complications to the nearest hospital.

* * *

TRAGIC as the loss of the Calisaan quadruplets has been, their very brief life and their parents' ordeal hold out lessons for all parents, especially first-time parents.

First is that one can never take pregnancy for granted. There is no substitute for regular pre-natal consultations and making sure that the mother gets plenty of rest, adequate nutrition, and takes all the medications necessary to ensure her and her child's health.

Second, both mother and father should be aware of the danger signs of pregnancy, among them: spotting or bleeding; bloating especially in the extremities which may signal preeclampsia, a toxic condition in late pregnancy; and contractions that increase in frequency and strength before the due date.

And third, a healthy mother means a healthy baby. Women are not meant to be baby machines, and their bodies need time to rest and recover from the ordeal of pregnancy and childbirth, including blood loss. If the earth is given time to lie fallow, should not women be given this time, too?

A greater monitoring of noontime TV fare

COMMENTARY

Mia Aureus

Institute on Church and Social Issues

LAST month, ABS-CBN suspended John Estrada and Willie Revillame from hosting "Masayang Tanghali Bayan" for "conduct unbecoming and use of inappropriate language." The INQUIRER reported that Bulacan Rep. Wilfredo Villarama, the Philippine Alliance Against Pornography and "concerned televiewers" filed a complaint before the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) regarding the misbehavior of the said hosts in their noontime variety show. A tape review showed that Estrada and Revillame used the terms "BJ" and "Jack Call" which are widely understood as "blow job" and "masturbation."

A source close to one of the hosts attested that the acts of misconduct were only minor ones and it only got blown out of proportion when ABS-CBN's rival network GMA allegedly twisted the arm of the MTRCB to suspend the two hosts. The source considered Estrada and Revillame mere victims or sacrificial lambs caught in the war between the two stations. ABS-CBN earnestly seeks a good image, thus it was compelled to submit to the MTRCB's decision.

While Estrada and Revillame's camp try to defend their actions and seek sympathy by clothing themselves with the sacrificial lambs' cloak, I had the chance to talk to some preschool teachers in our local community. They couldn't be any more relieved and happy with the suspension.

"*Tama lang yun. Masyado kasi silang hindi* careful *sa mga sinasabi nila. Mga* model *sila, napapanood sila ng* all ages. *Dapat talaga may* concern *sila at nag-iingat sila. 'Yung biro nila kahit* i-defend *pa nila na hindi nila ibig sabihin 'yung ganun, pero* very green *naman talaga ang sinasabi nila minsan*," said Rodella Salaver, a Nursery II and Kindergarten II teacher at the Children's Learning Center in Pontiac Street, Fairview, Quezon City.

Salaver's co-teacher, Maggie Usares, who teaches Nursery I and Kindergarten I pupils said that 3- and 4-year-old kids have excellent memory retention and are the most impressionable. What they love to imitate most are funny actions and dialogues. Salaver shared that her 4-year-old son surprised her when she heard him reciting by heart Bayani Agbayani's dialogues from TV sitcoms.

Noontime variety shows have mixed slapstick humor, sexist remarks, sexual innuendos and sexually explicit dances in their formula of entertainment. They have successfully generated laughter from the audience by making fun of a gay person or someone not as physically gifted as the other celebrity hosts. They created comedy out of whacking these persons at the back of their heads. They made hitting on women (beauty contestants or dancers) on stage and telling green jokes, sheer amusement. Those at the receiving end of this "funny script" swallow their pride and sacrifice their dignity. Humiliation became the name of the game.

Scheduled at a time (12:30 to 2:30 p.m.) meant for general viewership, McCann Erickson Philippines' study of December 2002 revealed "at least 24 percent of the viewing public is tuned in to the top noontime programs, any day from Monday to Saturday. This translates to at least 3.4 million viewers in and around Metro Manila, with an additional 700,000 viewers in key cities throughout the country. And at least a fourth of these viewers are children aged 2 to 12 years old."

The preschool teachers discourage watching these shows. They advise parents to supervise their children's viewing habits and heed television warnings. However, to what extent parents are able to monitor their children remains questionable. Busy at work, parents often leave their children with their *yayas* or helpers who invariably enjoy noontime variety shows. The preschool teachers feared that without proper adult supervision these children would be left to believe that green jokes are harmless. Or slapping someone with a crooked face is okay. Thus, the teachers are left with the burdensome challenge of rectifying twisted values. They spend a great time explaining to children that picking on a classmate with abnormally big eyes or on an albino, for example, is wrong and not funny at all.

Estrada and Revillame's suspension ended on June 21. Usares and Salaver admitted they are quite reluctant to see the two come back to the show. This is the second time it has happened. The first suspension two years ago was also on similar grounds of "conduct unbecoming and inappropriate language."

Moreover, despite claims of Estrada and Revillame's side that they were mere sacrificial lambs, the preschool teachers commend the MTRCB for not neglecting their responsibility to the children. Echoing many concerned televiewers' cry, they ask the MTRCB to be more watchful and strict with all noontime variety shows, not only "MTB." For concerned people like them, the case was not a matter of rivalry and vengeance. It was a matter of ethics and protection of the values of the young. Filipinos have patronized these shows for two decades. Television networks have taken advantage of viewers' loyalty by abandoning social responsibility in their war for higher ratings. We hope that this incident will compel television networks to reevaluate their priorities and put social responsibility back on their list of concerns.

Too early to rejoice over court rulings

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

LAST week's events gave a glimmer of hope to the victims of martial law that not all is lost in their seemingly frustrating struggle to get redress for their grievances against the late Ferdinand Marcos and his cronies.

First, the Sandiganbayan declared that the coconut levy funds that business tycoon Eduardo Cojuangco used to acquire the United Coconut Planters Bank are owned by the government. Then, the Supreme Court ruled that the $682 million (roughly P36 billion) Swiss bank account of the Marcoses that is held in escrow at the Philippine National Bank is ill-gotten wealth and therefore should be forfeited in favor of the government.

The losing parties are not taking their setback sitting down. They have served notice of their intention to exert all efforts to have the decisions overturned. More than money is at stake in the final outcome of these cases.

For Cojuangco, the ruling puts at risk his hold over profitable San Miguel Corp. Deprived of access to that cash cow, his presidential ambition could be in serious trouble. For the Marcoses, small change P36 billion may be compared to their suspected $10 billion hoard, the forfeiture will demolish their earlier representations that their patriarch was the Great and Honest Leader they projected him to be to the Filipino people.

In the excitement over the unexpected decisions, little notice has been given by the public to the period of time it took the courts to resolve the two cases. The coco levy ownership issue languished for 16 years. The Marcos Swiss account case stayed in the court calendar for 17 years.

Delaying tactics

The cases illustrate the pace of the wheels of justice in our country. They grind exceedingly slow. If there were something worse than snail pace, the description would have been more apt. In spite of the delay, however, the rah-rah boys of Cojuangco and the Marcoses have the gall to complain about lack of due process and undue haste in the resolution of the cases!

The defense lawyers did a good job in preventing justice from taking a speedy course for almost two decades. They must have used every trick in the books to accomplish that objective. Their tactics would make exciting instructional materials in a law school course on "how to delay court proceedings under cover of due process of law."

It will be interesting to find out how many times the hearings were cancelled or postponed upon the defense lawyers' request on account of heavy traffic, car trouble, sudden illness, death in the family, lack of preparation, unavailability of the lawyer assigned to the case or the need to attend to an important personal matter.

But the fact that the delaying tactics have been overcome should not lull the beneficiaries of the two decisions into a false sense of security. Until the coco levy issue is resolved with finality and the rights over the Marcos bank account are formally transferred to the government, it will be premature to start counting the windfall.

Cojuangco has 15 days from his receipt of the Sandiganbayan ruling to ask for its reconsideration. If his motion is denied, he can appeal to the Supreme Court. There is no assurance that the tribunal will uphold the anti-graft court's finding on the ownership of the coco levy funds. A lot of things can happen between the filing of the appeal and the deliberations of the tribunal.

Precedent

It will be recalled that in 1998 former first lady Imelda Marcos was convicted by the Sandiganbayan for malversation of public funds in connection with the rehabilitation of the Philippine General Hospital. A division of the Supreme Court headed by no less than then Chief Justice Andres Narvasa upheld the conviction.

Through some deft maneuver, Ms Marcos' lawyer was able to convince the tribunal to take a second look at the decision. Well, what do you know? Majority of the justices ruled that their colleagues who earlier convicted Ms Marcos were wrong in their appreciation of facts and interpretation of the law. A "not guilty" was immediately rendered. The whole process, from conviction to acquittal, took only nine months. It was a no mean feat considering that criminal cases in the tribunal often take years to resolve.

The former first lady's lawyer in that case was former solicitor general and justice secretary Estelito Mendoza. He happens to be the lawyer of Cojuangco in the coco levy case.

Although chances of overturning the 12-0 ruling of the tribunal on the Marcos bank account are slim, the turnover of the $682 million deposit to the government can be thwarted or made difficult by the Swiss government or Swiss banking officials.

Lest we forget, the transfer of the Marcos bank account to PNB is only provisional. Its proceeds will be remitted to the Philippine government on condition that its ill-gotten nature is proven in accordance with appropriate legal procedures, meaning after the requirements of due process of law are complied with.

Watch out

The Swiss officials' action was not motivated by benevolent intentions. World public opinion that frowned upon Swiss banks allowing themselves to be havens for dirty money forced them into doing that. The Swiss banks see nothing wrong with safeguarding the deposits of war criminals, dictators, drug lords and all kinds of international ruffians. They wouldn't care less if the money was gained at the expense of the blood or lives of the people in Third World countries. What matters for them is profits and more profits. The Swiss bankers epitomize greed in their industry.

If, in the opinion of the Swiss bankers, the tribunal's ruling would have an adverse effect on their country's reputation as a reliable repository of funds, do not be surprised if they suddenly throw all kinds of obstacles to prevent or delay the transfer of the Marcos account to the government.

They can claim the Marcoses were not given their day in court or the proceedings did not meet the standards of international law. They can exert pressure on the government, through the international financial institutions that Swiss banks control, to hold in abeyance the fund transfer until the parties reach an arrangement that will not compromise the "integrity" of the Swiss banking system.

The Swiss banks represent a wild card in this case. Until we're sure that they will not poke their dirty fingers into the issue, the champagne bottles should not be taken out of the wine closets yet.

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TALK of the TOWN

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

What is a national artist?

THE LAST-MINUTE inclusion of Alejandro "Anding" Roces in this year's list of National Artist awardees has generated a controversy in the community of writers and artists in the country.

The National Commission for Culture and the Arts and the Cultural Center of the Philippines sent President Macapagal-Arroyo the names of only four awardees-film director Eddie Romero, theater designer Salvador Bernal, poet-critic Virgilio Almario and the late painter Jose Joya.

But the President added Roces to the names the NCCA and CCP submitted to Malacanang when she issued proclamations for this year's National Artist awardees. Ms Macapagal cited Roces, the education secretary of her father, the late President Diosdado Macapagal, for his contribution in literature.

Besides the honor the Award brings, it provides the National Artist with benefits such as a tax-free cash award of P100,000 for a living awardee, P75,000 for a posthumous awardee payable to his/her legal heir/s, a monthly pension of P20,000, medical and hospitalization benefits, and arrangements for a state funeral.

Questions have been raised about the selection process, including the role played by the President. Because the Award is a presidential award, the President can choose any artist she wants. Only a law can prevent the President from exercising that prerogative. Involving the communities of artists in the selection process can help ensure that an awardee is deserving.

'The controversy regarding the National Artist Award is spawned by the use of the term national'

'A law can forestall Malacañang's intervention'

By Bienvenido Lumbera
Literary scholar and critic, and former head of the NCCA's Literary Arts Committee

The component terms in the honorific title "National Artist" ought to be clarified. "Nation" in "national" should be understood as "the Filipino people" instead of "the State." This should extricate the title from the hegemony of power-wielders running the country at any given point in our history. In this way also, the honor becomes accessible to artists whose career and body of works might not meet the approval of Malacañang.

When an artist is designated as "national," it is understood that he is not simply a superior craftsman or an excellent artisan. It is assumed he has behind him a substantial body of works that has impacted on a fairly broad public and is perceived to have been able to seize upon the dreams and aspirations of his people and made them the stuff of his art. In other words, he is a "significant" artist.

I suggest that choosing National Artists begin with the formation of what I would like to call "communities" of artists, one community per category, which would choose the nominees.

The community referred to here would be a representative body of artists perceived to be knowledgeable about the talent and artistic standing of individuals proposed for nomination. The nominating body cannot be an organization, for this is bound to keep out "non-joiners" of which there are many among artists.

The nominees are then passed on to the selection process that the National Commission for Culture and the Arts and the Cultural Center of the Philippines have already jointly institutionalized, which should come up with the recommended awardees. The community of artists, which started the process will pass upon the recommendations, threshing out on this level differences of opinion on the merits and significance of the achievement of the artist\artists up for awards. Final approval of the awardees would rest with the artists' respective communities.

It is recommended that a law be passed to forestall Malacañang's intervention in the choice of National Artists.

'Who wants to receive a *tainted* award?'

By Mauro Malang Santos
Visual artist

I have nothing against the awards. My complaint is about the process. Let's all be part of the solution and not the problem.

Anyone, anybody can nominate anyone; anyone can campaign for the award; anyone can buy the award. I agree with the observation of National Artist F. Sionil Jose that "*pakikisama, pagkakaibigan at kamag-anak*" prevail in the selection process.

Another criterion allowing official organizations and other entities to submit nominations is not correct. I am suggesting instead a body of peers. We in the visual arts know intimately who is qualified and who is not for the award. So, instead of the current rules on selecting the awardees, I'm suggesting the following rules:

1. Should be chosen by peers.
2. Must have a body of works.
3. Should have critical acclaim.
4. Must have helped fellow artists.
5. Must have won prestigious awards.
6. Should have done community work.

I am also suggesting that the National Artist Award for visual art category be suspended until a new crop of talent comes up. In addition to this, I have other reasons why the award should be suspended for awhile. These include:

1. Prevalence of graft and corruption in the NCCA "awards" committee. Again, to quote Jose: "Who are the members of this selection committee? Name them and you will know immediately that they are guided by the barnacled values of *pakikisama, kaibigan, kamag-anak,* which obstruct the recognition of genuine excellence." You will find the awards committee members lobbying competitively for their chosen candidates.

2. Lack of talent to choose from. At present, we are already scraping the bottom of the barrel, so to speak, for the visual art category. Again I refer only to the "Visual Artists" category. Why are dead cartoonists actually being nominated and considered, if there are live painters who deserve consideration?

3. As a result of No. 2, dead artists are being "resurrected" or considered for the award. I remember CCP Director Deanna Ongpin convening a workshop at Mt. Makiling—at which art workers voted not to give posthumous National Artist awards in any category. The Ramon Magsaysay Memorial Award doesn't give posthumous awards.

4. The awards are becoming a laughing stock. Imagine a certain E.R. Tagle being nominated by "finger-painter" Paeng Pacheco. I asked Paeng Pacheco "Why nominate a ... character?" Mr. Pacheco told me that E.R. nominated him so he had to nominate E.R. It was a case of "scratch-my back-I-scratch-yours" arrangement. If that's not funny, I don't know what is. How about FVR's "historical literature" category, former President Joseph Estrada's award for Ernani Cuenco? GMA's "dagdag" award? Aren't these clear cases of "*palakasan*" in Malacañang?

5. Because of the public's clamor for a change of rules.

In a recent article by columnist Krip Yuson, he asked: "What if they give it (National Artist Award) to him (Malang) eventually? Would he boycott the awards rites and claim he was busy browsing at National Bookstore? That he was scraping the bottom of the barrel bin?"

Yes, unfortunately, I will boycott the awards rites because I won't nominate myself. What for?

Yes, I also belong to the "bottom of the barrel" and I don't want to be scraped. For what?

Let's all be part of the solution. The National Artist Award is the only honest help we (visual artists) get from the government. The government needs a grand program to promote Philippine art abroad.

Columnist Butch Dalisay said: "There is nothing in the rules that says a National Artist has to be a nice guy aside from being a master craftsman and visionary, but there's nothing either, that disqualifies the gifted and the good." With this, I rest my case.

'The NAA is an agency of state patronage'

By Lito B. Zulueta
Associate director, Center for Creative Writing and Studies, University of Sto. Tomas

The literature prize is biased against non-imaginative writers. While I may have some misgivings about presidential intervention in the Awards, there's no doubt in my mind that the President has the power and the prerogative to add to the list of winners. The National Commission for Culture and the Arts and the Cultural Center of the Philippines are recommendatory bodies.

It is the President who proclaims the National Artists. The National Artist Award was established on April 27, 1972 by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No.1001. It is a Marcos creation.

President Ferdinand Marcos himself exercised his prerogative to name honorees outside of those recommended; in 1984 he made Carlos P. Romulo National Artist for Literature. The law that created the NCCA in 1992 did not revoke Presidential Proclamation 1001. Nor did it abolish the presidential prerogative to name National Artists.

I think it was Charlson Ong who said that he hated the idea of the National Artist Award since it reeked of a "canonization." He was apparently referring to the state sponsorship and exaltation of artists above their peers, of their works above other works. But more than this, the National Artist Award endows ritualistic aura not only on the artist and his works, but also on the state and its powers. It is an agency of state patronage. I am not saying we don't need the National Artist Award. I am saying we should have no illusions about it.

The furor over Alejandro Roces owes to the canonization of imaginative literature over non-imaginative literature, of fiction over non-fiction.

It is notable that the three most controversial choices in the literature awards involved non-fictionists-Romulo, Roces and Carlos Quirino.

The elitist notion of imaginative literature as the "only" literature or the literature that is worth considering for the National Artist Award is anomalous. We must remember that the notion of literature as imaginative literature is scarcely two centuries old. Before the 19th century, literature and other analogous terms in Europe meant "writings" or "book knowledge."

Imaginative literature started to be exalted above other writings when formalism focused on the intrinsic qualities of a literary work, denying and deriding any reference to the outside world. So poets and fictionists were acclaimed, while historians, journalists and philosophers were disparaged. The literature of the imagination became an icon and was divorced from the dynamics of social practice and the historical moment.

The situation obtains up to now. This explains why in the history of the Nobel Prize for Literature, only two non-fictionists have been given the award: the historian Winston Churchill and the philosopher Bertrand Russell. This also explains why some creative writers consider sacrilegious the presidential proclamation of Romulo, Quirino and Roces as National Artists. This explains the historic bias against non-fictionists and non-imaginative writers in the National Artist Awards.

(Excerpts from a lecture at the UST Center for Creative Writing and Studies, July 16)

'We revere artists fighting injustice'

By Julie L. Po
Secretary general, Concerned Artists of the Philippines

The controversy regarding the National Artist award is spawned by the use of the term "national." "National" means "relating to a nation."

Rightly so, listed as No. 2 criterion for National Artist is, "artists who have helped build a Filipino sense of nationhood through content and form of their works." For the Concerned Artists of the Philippines (CAP), this is the most serious among the criteria. More serious than the criterion listed as No. 1, which is, "artists who are Filipino citizens" or just plain, artists who are Filipino nationals. That is so easy to meet.

Helping "build a Filipino sense of nationhood" would require that the works be of nationalist leanings, the contents touching on the people's lives, examining social realities (such as economic, intellectual and cultural poverty), while displaying excellence in form and style.

Important to note, however, is that while the arts can truly help build a sense of nationhood, the essence of nationhood is attained while struggling for genuine national freedom and democracy. Artists can only build a sense of nationhood through their arts if they are part of this struggle.

That is why we revere National Artist Ka Amado Hernandez, whose sterling literature reflected the plight and fight of workers, which was also his. (Together with the labor sector, concerned artists and cultural workers celebrate Ka Amado's birth centennial this year.) Just as we honor National Artist Lino Brocka, CAP founding chair, who did not only show injustice and inequity in society through his cinematic images but also joined the movement to correct these.

ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ
PAGE DESIGN BY ERNIE SAMBO

'The criteria must be clear'

By Maria Fina C. Yonzon
Executive director, NCCA

A National Artist is a Filipino, who, through his or her excellence in the arts, has made significant contributions to the enhancement and promotion of Philippine art and culture.

The ideal selection process for the National Artist Award should include clear and precise guidelines and criteria, a long enough and well-publicized nomination period, very thorough research on the nominee's life and accomplishments and a selection committee composed of a wide spectrum of artists who are highly respected in their respective fields.

NATIONAL ARTISTS

- **Architecture:** Pablo S. Antonio (1976), Leandro V. Locsin (1990), Juan F. Nakpil (1973)
- **Dance:** Reyes Aquino (1973), Leonor Orosa Goquingco (1976), Lucrecia Reyes Urtula (1976)
- **Cinema:** Ishmael Bernal (2001), Lino Brocka (1997), Gerardo "Gerry" de Leon (1982)
- **Historical Literature:** Carlos Quirino (1997)
- **Visual Arts:** Napoleon V. Abueva (Sculpture, 1976), Fernando C. Amorsolo (Painting, 1972), Ang Kiukok (Visual Arts, 2001) Victorio Edades (Painting, 1976), Carlos "Botong" Francisco (Painting, 1973), Jose Joya (Visual Arts, 2003), Cesar Legaspi (Visual Arts, 1990), Arturo R. Luz (Visual Arts, 1997), Vicente S. Manansala (Painting, 1981), J. Elizalde Navarro (Painting, 1999), Hernando R. Ocampo (Visual Arts, 1991), Guillermo Estrella Tolentino,(Sculpture, 1973)
- **Music:** Antonio R. Buenaventura (1988), Levi Celerio (Music and Literature, 1997), Ernani Joson Cuenco (1999), Felipe Padilla de Leon (1997), Jovita Fuentes (1976), Lucresia R. Kasilag (1989), Jose Maceda (1997), Antonio J. Molina (1973), Lucio D. San Pedro (1991), Andrea O. Veneracion (1999)
- **Literature:** Virgilio Almario (2003), Francisco Arcellana (1990), N.V.M. Gonzales (1990), Amado V. Hernandez (1973), Nick Joaquin (1976), F. Sionil Jose (2001), Alejandro Roces (2003), Edith L. Tiempo (1999), Jose Garcia Villa (1973), Carlos P. Romulo (1982)
- **Theater and Film:** Daisy Avellana (Theater, 1999), Lamberto V. Avellana (Theater and Film, 1976), Honorata "Atang" de la Rama (Theater and Music, 1987), Wilfrido Ma. Guerrero (Theater, 1997), Severino Montano (Theater, 2001), Rolando S. Tinio (Theater and Literature, 1997)
- **Theater and Design:** Salvador Bernal (2003)
- **Film and Broadcast Arts:** Eddie Romero (2003)

BY PDI RESEARCH

The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

2 more US soldiers killed in Iraq

BAGHDAD—Insurgents killed one American soldier in an attack on a convoy and shot and killed another in the Iraqi capital, while a prominent Shiite cleric urged Iraqis to politically oppose a US-appointed government.

Muqtada al-Sadr, addressing thousands at a mosque in the central holy city of Kufa, vowed Friday to establish a council "of the righteous" that would rival the new government.

The two American deaths Friday brought the total US personnel killed in combat since the March 20 start of the war to 149—two more than the 1991 Gulf War total—as anti-US violence persists, including by loyalists of deposed President Saddam Hussein.

A new audio recording purportedly by Saddam urging Iraqis to continue a "holy war" against US forces is probably authentic, a US intelligence official said Friday.

The message aired Thursday, the 35th anniversary of the coup that brought Saddam's Baath Party to power. It was likely recorded recently—a finding that was further evidence Saddam survived the war, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The Americans, meanwhile, celebrated victory by blowing up a towering statue of Saddam Hussein in the deposed dictator's hometown and seizing its head as a war trophy.

In Baghdad, a soldier from the US 1st Infantry Division was shot at about 2 a.m. Saturday outside the Al-Rasheed Bank in western Baghdad, said Cpl. Todd Pruden, a spokesperson for the military. The military had originally reported the soldier died Friday afternoon.

Pruden said the soldier was shot and killed by small arms fire. He gave no other details and the soldier's name was being withheld pending notification of next of kin.

The attack on the convoy came Friday afternoon when a bomb was detonated by remote control at a traffic circle near the main bridge over the Euphrates River in Fallujah, a city west of Baghdad, according to Sgt. Amy Abbott, a military spokesperson. She said a soldier from the 3rd Infantry Division died.

US military engineers discovered another bomb in Baghdad but defused it.

Shopkeeper Abdul Munin Ali, who was swimming in the Euphrates when he heard the explosion, said he saw four soldiers evacuated—three in ambulances and one by helicopter. But a Pentagon spokesperson said the dead soldier was the only casualty.

"America is the enemy of God," a crowd chanted as the servicemen towed away a charred Humvee.

The attack was the latest in a wave of anti-American violence in Fallujah, where many residents object to US patrols, saying soldiers ogle Iraqi women and don't respect Iraqi traditions.

The Americans withdrew from key Fallujah positions last week, but anger at the Americans remains high.

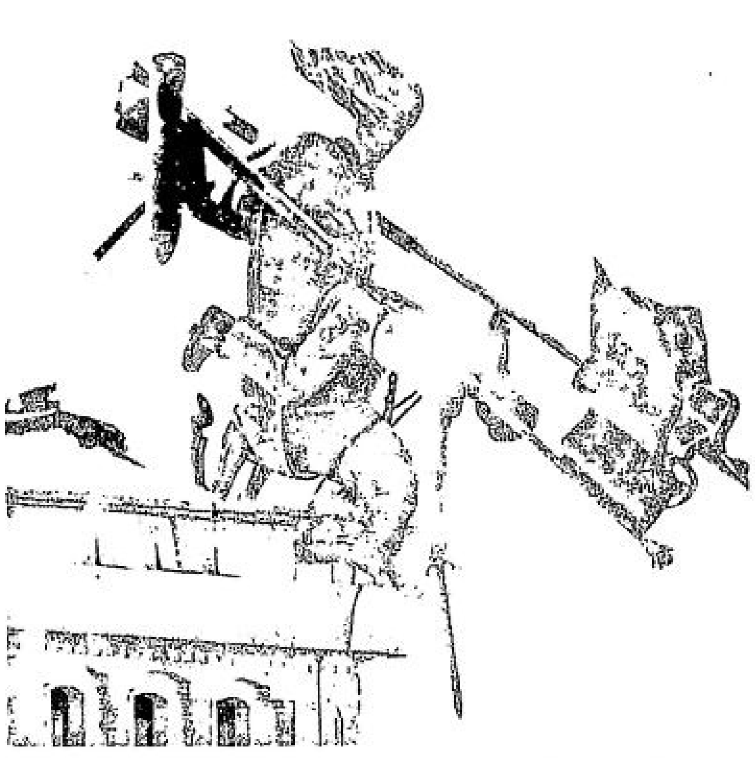
"We support the attacks because they are occupiers and infidels," said Yasser Younis, who works in an ice factory. "They promised us democracy and reconstruction, but they have done nothing."

Insurgents also targeted American troops in Baghdad, leaving a meter-long bomb on a highway median in the western part of the city. Army engineers spotted the device and dismantled it.

Several hours later, a large explosion rocked a site in southwestern Baghdad where the military often destroys ammunition.

Residents said they were afraid.

"I'm worried, because my children always walk here," said Ali Mohammed, 31, a guard at a construction site near where the bomb was planted. *AP*



DOWN, BUT MAYBE NOT OUT–A brass statue of Saddam Hussein falls into the lower level of the main entrance to Saddam's palatial grounds in Tikrit, about 170 km northwest of Baghdad, Iraq, July 18. The US army used explosives to remove the statue on Friday. REUTERS

Blair faces crisis over death of Iraq row 'fall guy'

LONDON—Newspapers said Saturday British Prime Minister Tony Blair faced a major crisis over the apparent suicide of a defense adviser at the center of a row about the way the government took the country into war against Iraq.

Several papers attacked the government, accusing it of turning microbiologist Dr. David Kelly, a weapons expert who worked as a UN inspector in Iraq, into a "fall guy."

The defense ministry is to launch an independent judicial inquiry if it is officially confirmed later Saturday that Kelly, who disappeared on Thursday, is dead.

That would bring a tragic twist to a convoluted tale of whether the government misled the country over its reasons for going to war against Saddam Hussein in March.

Kelly, 59, had been named as the possible source behind a BBC report which alleged the government had "sexed up" a September dossier on Baghdad's arms capabilities in order to beef up the case for military action.

Downing Street vigorously denies this claim. Kelly was grilled by a parliamentary committee investigating the affair, and was said to be have been under considerable stress.

"Death of the dossier fall guy" was the page-one headline of the right-wing Daily Telegraph, which said that Blair had been plunged into the biggest crisis of his premiership.

In an editorial it called on Alastair Campbell, the government's director of communications and a key aide to Blair, to quit, Defense Secretary Geoff Hoon to be "held to account," while Blair needed to make "some public declaration, backed up with deeds, to show that the era of spin is over."

In a report in May, the BBC claimed Campbell had ordered a claim that Iraq could deploy chemical or biological weapons in as little as 45 minutes, be inserted into its official dossier, despite the reservations of intelligence chiefs.

Campbell launched a furious counter-offensive, with Kelly finding himself at the center of the controversy.

The right-wing Daily Mail attacked the government over the way it had treated Kelly. On its front page it ran pictures of Blair, Campbell and Hoon, under a headline: "Proud of yourselves?"

The left-wing Daily Mirror tabloid said in an editorial that Kelly had been "hounded to death by the government," adding: "Powerful men lined up to scapegoat Dr. Kelly as part of their no-holds-barred campaign to clear the government of charges of faking dossiers before the Iraq war." *AFP*

US may go back to UN to seek help

UNITED NATIONS—With US troops being killed every week in Iraq, the United States is considering returning to the United Nations to try to persuade countries to send in soldiers or share costs, running about $4 billion a month.

But at this stage, diplomats say, no one has any idea what kind of a UN resolution would bring in help and persuade nations to send soldiers. Politically, seeking UN help would be an admission by hard-liners the oft-mentioned "coalition of the willing" was indeed a slim one, they said.

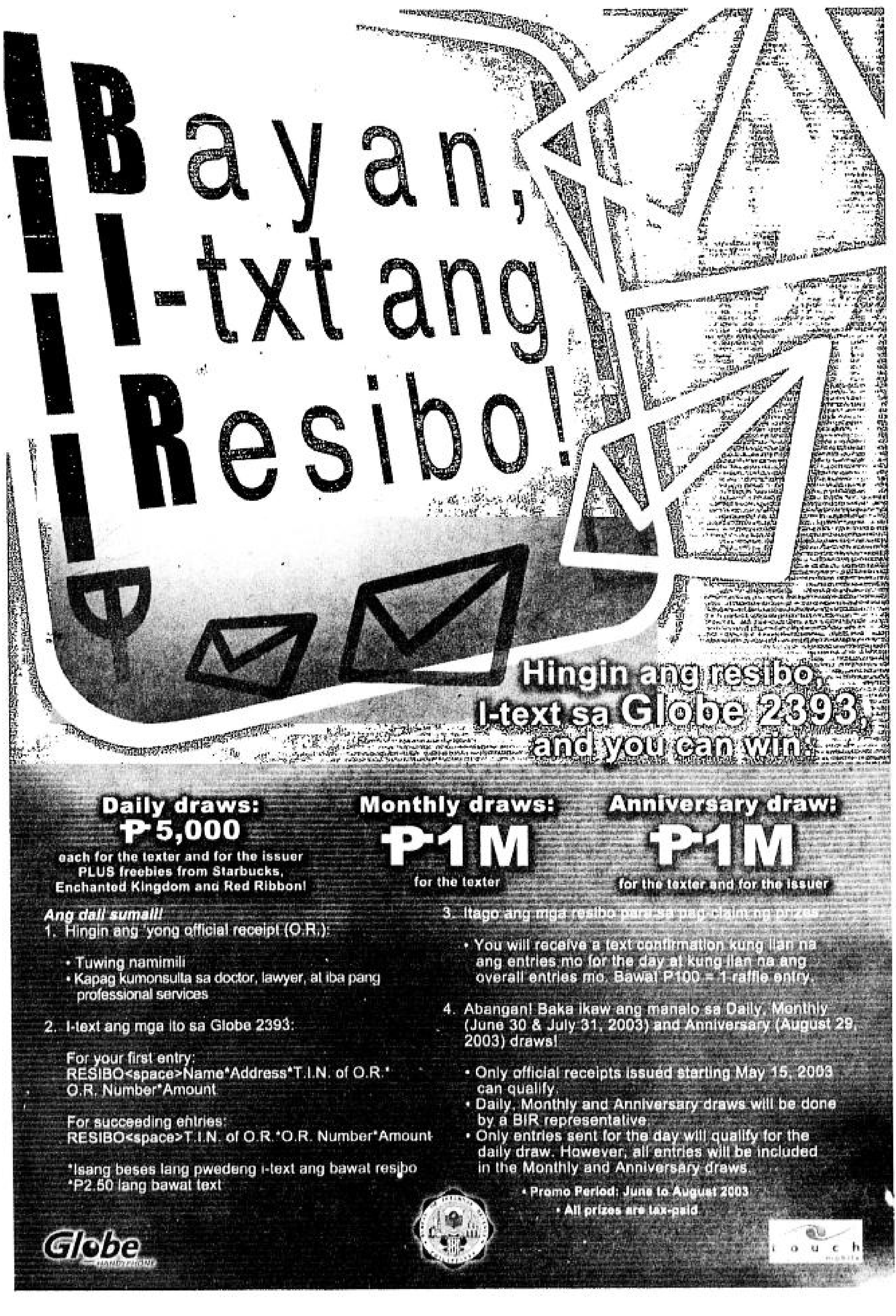
"There are a broader range of questions to be settled before there is a basis for countries like India or France to join the operation," Britain's UN ambassador, Jeremy Greenstock, told reporters late on Friday.

Some 34 American soldiers have been killed since hostilities were declared officially ended on May 1, bringing the US death toll to 149, higher than American fatalities in the 1991 Gulf War.

No resolution is expected to emerge until well after UN Security Council members hear a report on Tuesday from Sergio Vieira de Mello, the UN special envoy for Iraq.

He appears before the 15-nation body along with three members of the new Iraqi Governing Council, who could appeal to UN members to join a peacekeeping effort.

Exactly what role the United Nations could assume is unclear. UN officials have spoken against a "blue helmet" peacekeeping force and emphasized that security is the responsibility of the occupying powers, the United States and Britain. Should Washington want funds, contributors may insist on keeping some control over them, through the United Nations or by another system. *Reuters*



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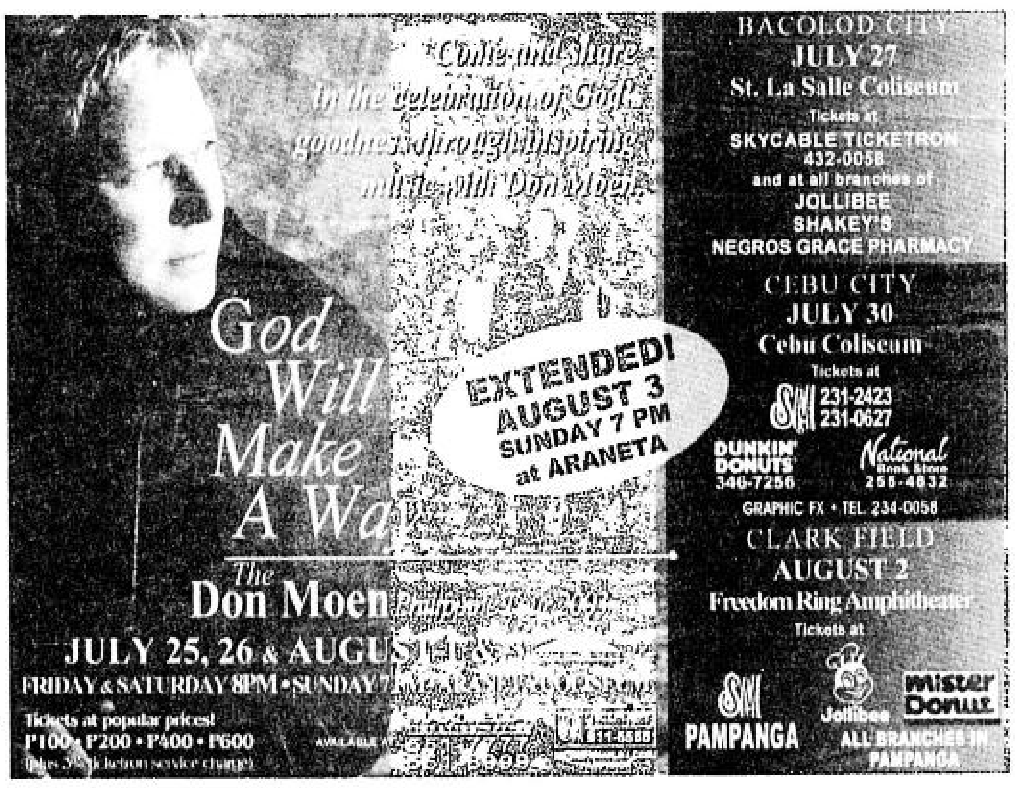

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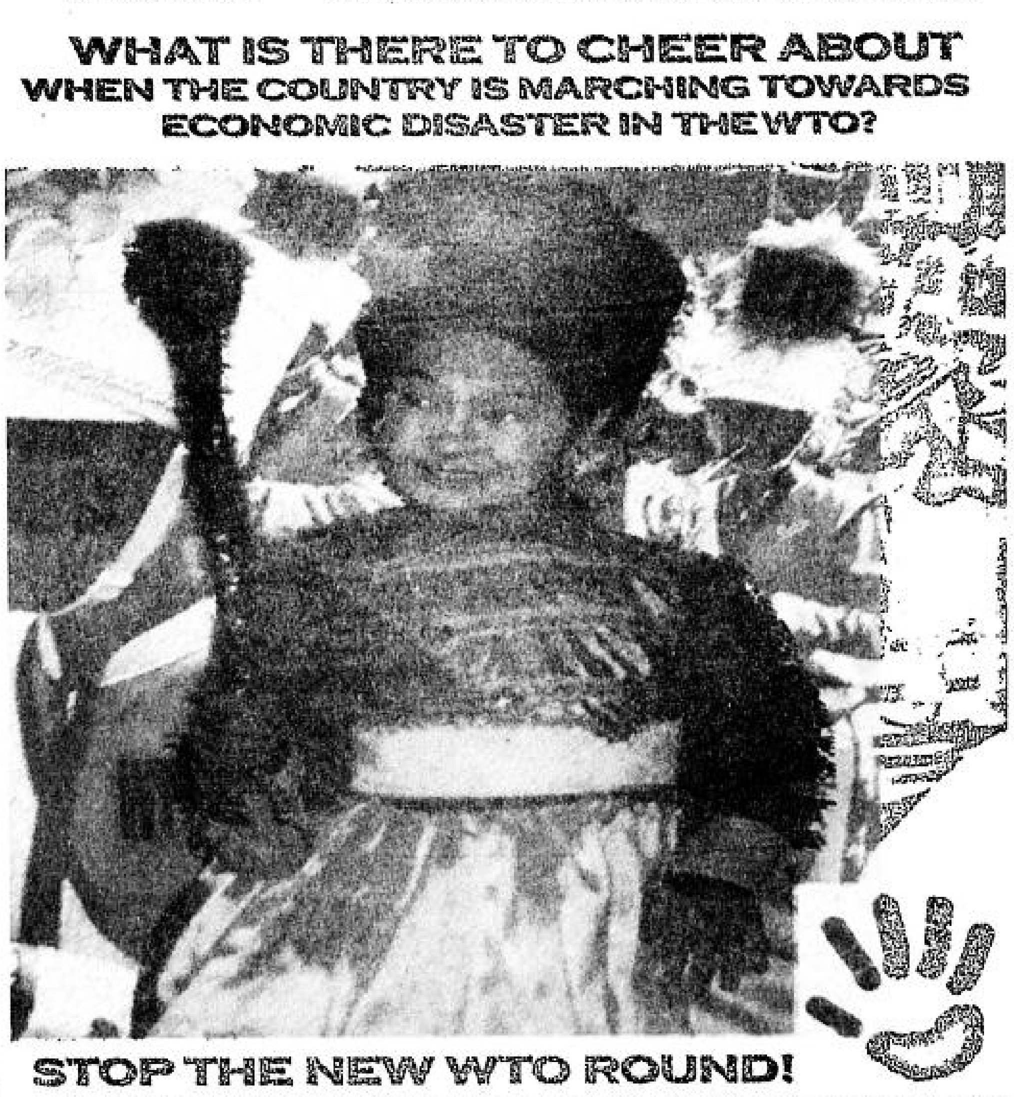

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HK leader flies to Beijing to explain crisis

BEIJING—Shaken by huge public protests, Hong Kong's leader flew to Beijing on Saturday to give China's rulers an explanation of the political crisis battering his government.

Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa, picked to run Hong Kong after its return to Chinese rule in 1997, faces demands to resign amid an uproar over a proposed security law that critics there say will undercut civil liberties. The territory's security and finance secretaries quit this week.

Tung told reporters on his morning flight that he would not be discussing replacements for his Cabinet in the talks with President Hu Jintao and Premier Wen Jiabao, according to Hong Kong government spokesperson Yvonne Choi. Tung told reporters that the focus would be Hong Kong's troubled economy, Choi said.

Tung breezed past more journalists as he arrived at a Beijing hotel, smiling and waving. "I'll talk to you later," he said.

The central government has given no indication of what Hu and Wen hope to do about Hong Kong's worst political controversy since the handover from British sovereignty. Hong Kong reporters were invited to a photo session with the leaders before their meetings—a sign that Tung was still in good standing.

Tung met with reporters Thursday in Hong Kong and rejected suggestions he should resign.

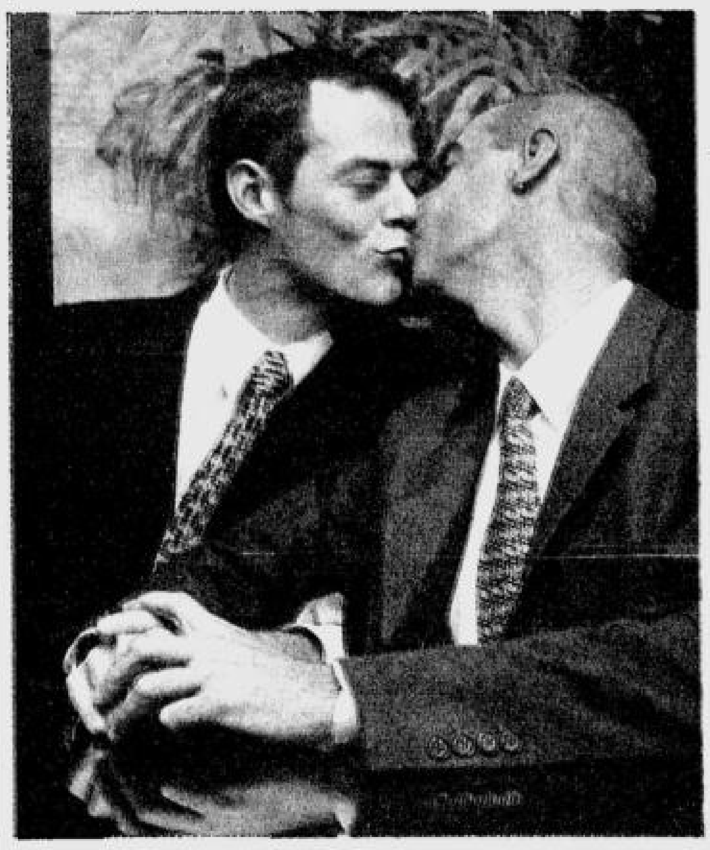
Beijing took the unusual step last week of sending senior officials to Hong Kong to assess public opinion. Chinese leaders insist they are respecting the broad autonomy and Western-style freedoms promised to the former British colony.

Tung appeared stunned by the massive public opposition—including a protest by 500,000 people on July 1—to anti-subversion legislation that his government hoped would be enacted a few days later.

The bill would outlaw subversion, sedition, treason and other crimes against the state, with life in prison for some offenses. It is required by the mini-constitution that China negotiated for Hong Kong, and Beijing wants the matter resolved smoothly.

"I was left sleepless the whole night," Tung said after the July 1 protest. "The public has reminded me that I should adopt a modest, open and sincere attitude in order to win their trust and support."

A Hong Kong delegate to China's national legislature said last week that Tung's government had misled Beijing about the depth of public unhappiness and that Chinese leaders were "shocked and displeased" by the scale of protests. *AP*



YOU MAY NOW KISS THE–AHEM–BRIDE
Csar Cigliutti (right), 45, and Marcelo Suntheim, 34, kiss after contracting a de facto union, July 18, in Buenos Aires. They are the first gay couple to have contracted the union in Argentina, the first Latin American country to allow such an alliance by law. AFP

Iran samples show enriched uranium, envoys say

VIENNA—UN inspectors have found enriched uranium in environmental samples taken in Iran, which could mean Tehran has been enriching uranium without informing the UN nuclear watchdog, diplomats said.

The diplomats, who asked not to be named, said initial analysis showed enrichment levels possibly consistent with an attempt to make weapons-grade material and high enough to cause concern at the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

Iran said later on Friday the IAEA had not told it about any findings.

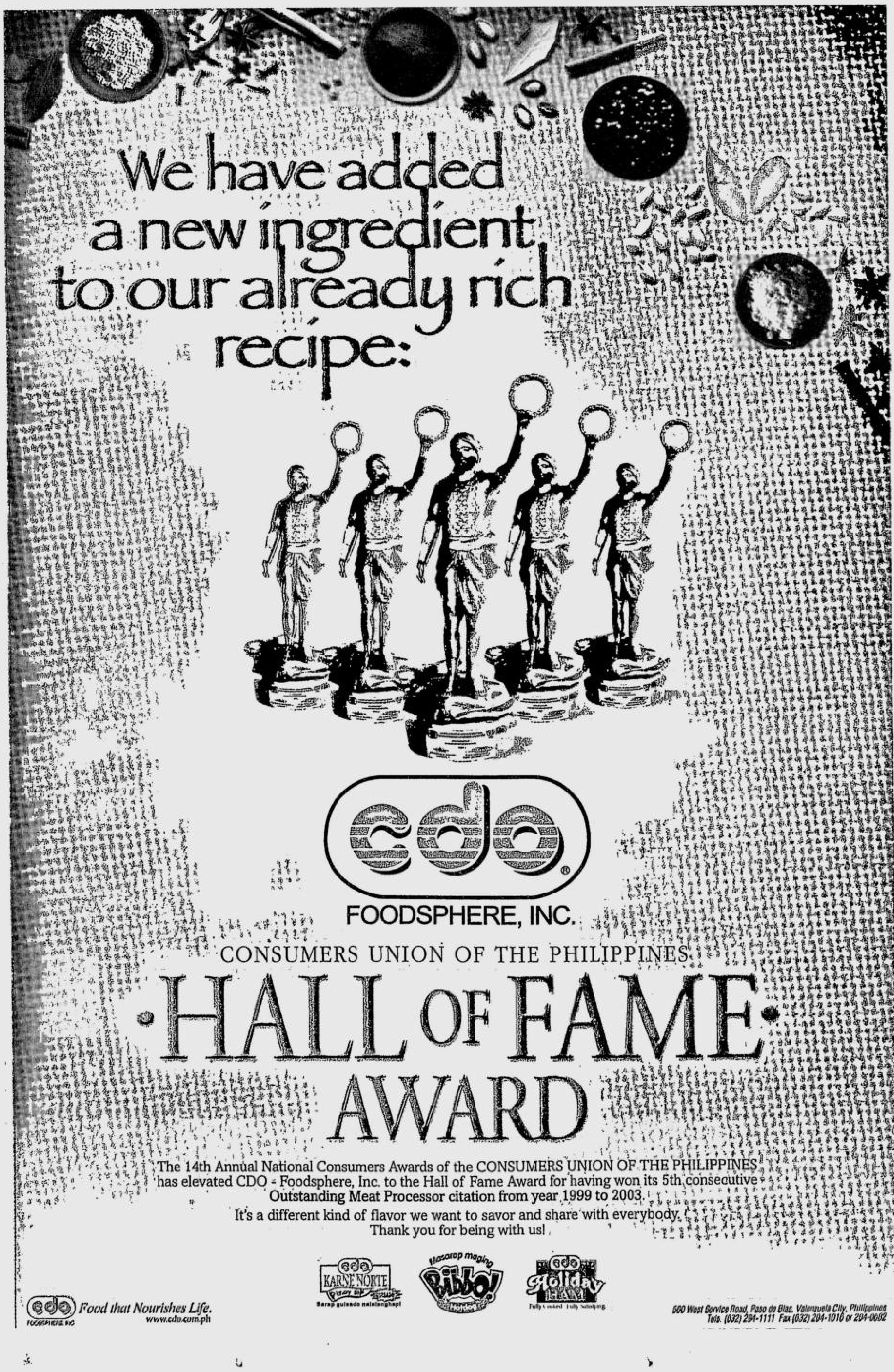
"The International Atomic Energy Agency has not told Iran about this issue," Khalil Mousavi, spokesperson for Iran's Atomic Energy Organization, said. "As soon as the agency takes a stance on this, then we will announce our stance," he said.

If Iran, dubbed part of an "axis of evil" by Washington, has enriched uranium without telling the IAEA, it would deepen US suspicions that Tehran's nuclear ambitions go beyond its stated aim of using nuclear energy to generate electricity.

Without confirming that UN inspectors had found enriched uranium, US State Department spokesperson Richard Boucher said: "I think this substantiates those statements that we've made over time" and said Washington wanted the IAEA to provide more information before its next report is due on Sept. 8.

However, the diplomats said the mere presence of enriched uranium in the samples was not solid proof Iran had done the enrichment itself. Contamination was another possibility, though how it had arisen would have to be explained to the IAEA.

The head of the IAEA declined to comment to reporters on the statements of the diplomats about the samples. *Reuters*



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Liberia rebels take key bridge near capital

MONROVIA—Liberian rebels captured a key bridge on Friday, smashing through one of the last main lines of defense before the capital Monrovia and sparking fears of another bloody battle in the city, an army commander said.

Po River bridge is just 12 km from the outskirts of the city where hundreds of people were killed last month in two failed assaults by the rebel Liberians United for Reconciliation and Democracy (LURD).

"The rebels are there. They came very heavily armed," chief of army staff Benjamin Yeaten said by phone after leaving the battlefront. "It looks like they are trying to attack Monrovia."

In the coastal capital, people slammed shutters down on shops and scrambled to get home. As news of the rebel advance spread, fuel prices doubled.

The residents of Monrovia remember all too well the fierce fighting that ravaged the city and left bodies strewn on the pot-holed streets during a civil war in the 1990s.

Last month, the city was battered again as rebels lobbed mortars into the suburbs and clashed with troops loyal to President Charles Taylor around the strategic port. Around 700 civilians were killed.

The latest rebel push will cast a cloud on plans by West African countries to deploy an initial peacekeeping force of up to 1,500 troops to separate the warring parties.

Regional leaders want to end 14 years of almost non-stop war that have destroyed a once well-off country, spawned a generation of ruthless drugged-up killers and spread chaos to neighboring countries.

LURD is seeking to oust Taylor, a former warlord who has been indicted for war crimes by an international court. LURD and a smaller rebel faction control two-thirds of Liberia, a nation founded by freed American slaves more than 150 years ago. *Reuters*

Mandela praised on 85th birthday

JOHANNESBURG—Tens of thousands of tributes poured in from around the world Friday to mark the 85th birthday of Nelson Mandela, the former political prisoner who fought for decades against apartheid and rose to become president of South Africa.

While world leaders sent formal messages of congratulations, ordinary people flooded the South African telecommunications provider with more than 14,400 telephone and 22,000 SMS (short message service) greetings.

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan, in an appreciation published in the South African press Friday, said Mandela, who spent 27 years in jail during the apartheid era, had inspired millions of people "to fight for reconciliation before recrimination, healing before bitterness, peace before conflict."

He said he always held Mandela up as an example when people asked him what difference one person could make "in the face of injustice, conflict, human rights violations, mass poverty and disease."

Mandela, now white-haired, told guests at birthday celebrations he was inspired by the birthday wishes received from around the world and, closer to home, from his own ruling African National Congress.

"If I have to live for another 85 years, it will be because of all the good wishes I have received from all over the world, but equally importantly from my own organization," said Mandela, a Nobel peace prize laureate and now a key fighter in the global battle against AIDS. *AFP*

N. Korea has enough plutonium for A-bomb–China

BEIJING—North Korea's closest ally China believes the Stalinist regime now has enough plutonium to build a nuclear bomb, diplomats were quoted as saying by the Asian Wall Street Journal Friday.

It was this realization that accelerated Beijing's diplomacy to defuse the crisis, which saw Chinese Deputy Foreign Minister Dai Bingguo dispatched to Pyongyang last Saturday.

Dai is now in Washington to brief top US policymakers on the outcome of his rare meeting with North Korean leader Kim Jong-il.

The newspaper said Chinese intelligence services concluded in recent weeks that North Korea is producing weapons-grade plutonium in sufficient quantities and has all the necessary components to assemble nuclear-tipped missiles.

Quoting diplomats in Beijing and a European official familiar with internal Chinese reports on the findings, it said the reprocessed plutonium is estimated to be enough to make at least one nuclear device.

The European official, however, said Pyongyang has yet to fashion the plutonium, triggering devices and other components into a bomb.

The report goes some way to verifying recent Pyongyang claims, which the US has been unable to confirm, that a number of spent nuclear fuel rods, sealed in 1994, have been opened and have undergone reprocessing, ostensibly to produce plutonium.

US and South Korean officials have already speculated that North Korea may have one or two nuclear bombs and may have the capacity to build about six.

Until now, China has maintained that no evidence existed that North Korea was seeking nuclear weapons.

Beijing's growing anxiety, however, has been evident in the new urgency seen in the flurry of diplomacy this week.

At a foreign ministry briefing on Thursday, spokesperson Kong Quan said the North Korean standoff was at a "critical moment."

"What China is doing is lowering the temperature, promoting talks and encouraging the two sides to make peace," he said.

"It is important to get the parties back to the negotiating table and continue the Beijing talks," he said, referring to trilateral talks in April which ended bitterly with Pyongyang saying it possessed and might test nuclear weapons.

According to US officials in Washington, the prospects for new talks have brightened with the North appearing ready to join another negotiating session with China and the United States.

There were also signs that the dialogue, which South Korean officials have been quoted as saying could happen as early as next month, could be expanded to include Japan and South Korea.

The United States has always insisted on multilateral talks and has been eager to include its Japanese and South Korean allies. North Korea has consistently demanded one-on-one talks with Washington.

An impatient Beijing has stressed the number of participants is not as important as getting the talks going again.

As a traditional ally and supplier of food and fuel to the North, China is the country with the biggest leverage over Pyongyang.

And it has shown it is prepared to pull its weight.

Earlier in the crisis, it reportedly halted oil supplies for several days in annoyance at the North, and just two days after Kim granted Dai the rare meeting Monday, the regime's Korean Central News Agency announced that China "recently decided to donate 10,000 tons of diesel oil" to Pyongyang. *AFP*

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Army seeks mayors' help against rebs

TACLOBAN CITY—The military has asked the support all of the sixteen mayors of the second congressional district of Samar to help them in implementing political and socio-economic components in the counter-insurgency drive.

Brig. Gen. Glenn Rabonza, chief of the Army's 8th Infantry Division, met with the mayors at the Leyte Park Hotel here yesterday and admitted that the war against the Communist Party of the Philippines-New People's Army cannot be won by pure military solution alone.

"We need the support of the mayors and the barangay captains in winning over villages that have been influenced by the communists," Rabonza said.

Samar Rep. Eduardo Nachura, who hosted the meeting, said that the military has rice sufficiency, environment and adult literacy programs that can be tapped by local government officials.

"It is not within the capability of the military to protect each town and barangay that is why we must help them in the political and socio-economic programs of the government's counter-insurgency program," said Nachura.

Nachura said that the mayors must start talking with the military in finding solutions to insurgency in Samar, which the military said had grown this year by 12 percent.

Brig. Gen. Rafael Romero, chief of the Army's 501st Brigade, said that the rebels' raid in Quinapondan, Eastern Samar on June 22 has put the military on alert.

But he said when he called for a provincial peace and order meeting on July 1, only one mayor in Eastern Samar was present.

There must be a "holistic solution" to the insurgency since it was the main agenda of President Macapagal-Arroyo's visit early this week to Tacloban City in Leyte and Borongan in Eastern Samar, said Rabonza.

Rabonza said that the government must match the communist guerrillas efforts to win over supporters.

He said the government should have counterparts to the National Democratic Front's political struggle, armed struggle and united front building efforts.

The guerrillas have put on their assassination list mayors who are perceived to be enemies of the rebels and have executed two mayors recently. *Marc Villavicencio, PDI Visayas Bureau*

DISSENT IN PAMPANGA

Quarry order strains GMA-Lapid ties

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—In a move indicating a strained alliance, Gov. Manuel Lapid on Thursday ordered the provincial attorney to question the legality of President Macapagal-Arroyo's Executive Order 224 that placed the quarry industry under the direct control of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau.

Lapid declined to issue a statement but described the order, signed on July 4 and received by the MGB on Tuesday, as "*parang yung* order *ni* Erap (similar to Proclamation 66 of former President Joseph Estrada)."

Through the proclamation, Estrada ordered the Natural Resources Development Corp. of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources in February 1999 to take over the management of the quarry industry, including the collection of revenues.

The takeover occurred six months after Lapid and four other officials were charged with graft for allegedly collecting P80 on top of the P40 tax allowed by law for every truck of sand hauled out of the province.

Provincial Attorney Filmer Abrajano said he was finalizing a petition to annul EO 224.

The draft copy showed the petition rests on the same argument that enabled the provincial government to regain control of the quarry industry in January 2002.

It said the collection of local taxes from mineral resources is an exclusive right and authority of the provincial government.

The Local Government Code of 1991, Abrajano said, empowered the provincial government to exercise autonomy.

He said he was confident of the soundness of this argument, explaining that the regional trial court, in December 2001, upheld the mandate of the provincial government over local resources.

Ms Macapagal, in April 2002, issued Proclamation 183, saying "sound governance demands that control and supervision over those river systems and the exploitation and utilization of sand and lahar deposits in the area be returned to the local government units concerned."

Abrajano said EO 224 was "like (Estrada's) Proclamation 66, (which is) illegal and unconstitutional."

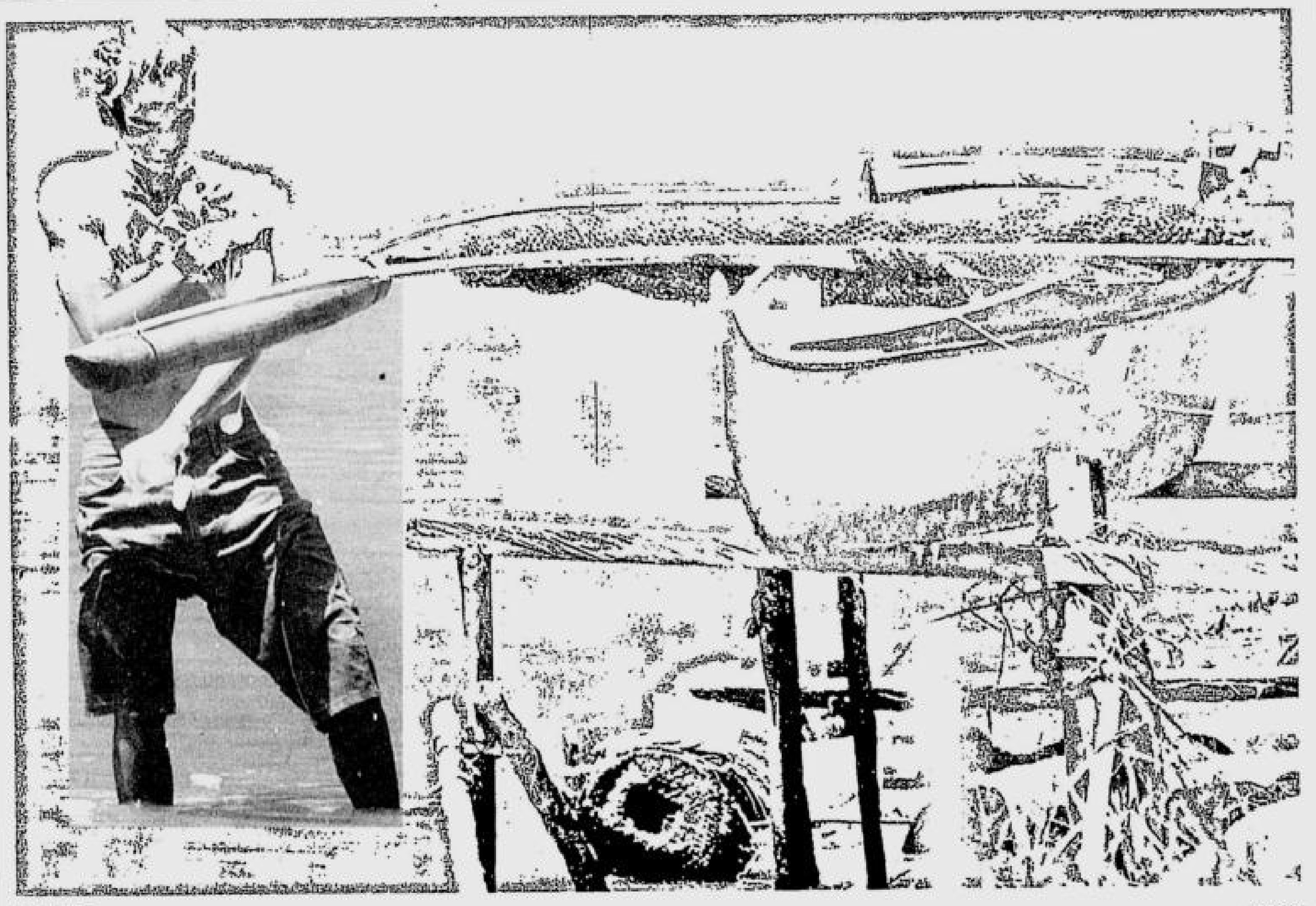
He said the task force created under EO 224 and headed by the DENR's MGB regional director as the team leader should not be allowed to collect taxes because that function was solely the authority of the provincial treasurer.

The order, which also covers Tarlac and Zambales, relegated provincial governors like Lapid to the role of deputy team leaders.

"This is really in violation of the (local government) code," Abrajano said. "It's quite obvious that Pampanga was singled out."

Abrajano cited a section in the President's order where she ordered the task force to "immediately monitor all reported illegal mining and quarrying operations and, for this purpose, set up as may be necessary checkpoints and other monitoring stations within the territorial jurisdiction of the province of Pampanga."

The President's order came two weeks after the Sangguniang Panlalawigan required Provincial Treasurer Jovito Sabado and the provincial quarry task force led by Provincial Administrator Benalfre Galang to provide an official report on the income from quarry revenues. *Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk*


REUTERS

BATH

A FISHERMAN takes a bath beside his boat after spending the morning out at sea in the remote coastal village of Quiniput, Zamboanga City.

Hagedorn says Puerto drug-free by November

PUERTO PRINCESA Mayor Edward Hagedorn vowed to make the city drug-free by November.

Hagedorn made the announcement following the arrest of Mario Dacquer Pamado, listed as No. 1 drug trader in Palawan, by a team from the Drug Enforcement Action Division (DEAD) led by Douglas Hagedorn, the mayor's brother.

Mayor Hagedorn said the campaign against illegal drugs in the city gained impetus following the order of President Arroyo to go on a full-blast campaign to rid the country of illegal drugs, particularly metamphetamine hydrochloride, known notoriously as shabu.

When he assumed office, Mayor Hagedorn said, there were 130 identified pushers and an estimated 15 percent of the population was hooked on illegal drugs.

He added that the gravity of the problem that he inherited compelled him to organize a group that would go hammer and tongs against drug syndicates in the city.

The Puerto Princesa mayor added that when he assumed office, he immediately created dead under his office to centralize the anti-illegal drugs drive. The drive started on Dec. 5, 2002.

He named his own brother as program director, with Augusto Gamboa as project manager and selected police officers in the city and the Palawan Provincial Police (pppo) as members.

Mayor Hagedorn said Pamado was arrested by the dead while in possession of 24.8 grams of shabu, which is worth P49,600 in the streets.

His arrest caps a string of successful anti-illegal drugs operations, the mayor added.

From December 2002 to July 16, 2003, Mayor Hagedorn said, 75 operations were launched, leading to the arrest of 112 violators and the seizure of 471.4 grams of the prohibited drug valued at P1,320,700.50.

Thirty of those arrested were held by virtue of warrants of arrest, 30 through buy-bust operations and 15 by search on account of lawful search.

The biggest haul of shabu in Puerto Princesa and Palawan came from Musa Abagat.

1,000 farmers' groups ask GMA help on rice import probe

MORE than 1,000 farmers' cooperatives in Luzon and Mindanao have lodged a formal complaint with the Office of the President against persons sabotaging the Farmers as Importers Program (FIP).

Farmer leaders Michael Abas-Kida of Maguindanao; Datu Maguto Mokamad of Mindanao; Kaimo Moreno of La Union, Isabela; Bilmario Cordero of Eastern Pangasinan, Ilocos Sur and Norte; Josephine Buan of Bulacan; and Eugenio Ramirez of Nueva Ecija, wrote President Macapagal-Arroyo a letter of complaint, seeking an investigation of attempts to sabotage the program.

Abas Kida said a certain Marie Arlyn Abenido, who dropped the name of the President, undermined the capability of farmers to fight for their rights as beneficiaries of the President's program.

They went to Malacañang and met with Customs chief Antonio Bernardo to present documents and file a formal complaint on separate occasions.

They appealed to the President to order the release of 50,000 bags of Vietnam rice held at the Batangas Port in Sta. Clara town since July 13.

Abas Kida, vice president of the National Confederation of Irrigators Association, said in a statement that Abenido and armed men in plainclothes, at gunpoint, blocked the rice shipment, demanding an import permit from the National Food Authority (NFA).

"Didn't she (Abenido) know that NFA does not issue any import permit for rice allocation to farmers' cooperatives? Ignorance of the law excuses no one," he said.

Abenido said she was acting on behalf of the President as an agent of the Office of the President's anti-smuggling intelligence and investigation center.

Abas Kida accused Abenido of trying to sabotage the President's program designed to allow farmers to import rice during the lean months of local harvest.

He said the 1,000 farmers' cooperatives are confident the President would take appropriate actions against Abenido and heed their appeal.

He said people who are sabotaging the program are bent on putting the President in a bad light.

Several cases of legal importation of rice being blocked by armed men in various ports have already been reported, but the harassment against farmers' groups continues, said Abas Kida.

He said the persons behind the sabotage should be prosecuted and put behind bars for undermining the President's program.

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Danding, GMA allies wage 'signature war'

By Jani Arnaiz
PDI Visayas Bureau

MAASIN CITY—A battle of signature campaigns is now raging in the city.

Maasin City Mayor Damian Mercado, chair of the Lakas-CMD here, has initiated a signature drive, asking President Macapagal-Arroyo to run in the 2004 presidential elections.

Mercado launched the campaign on July 10, four days after Southern Leyte Gov. Rosette Lerias kicked off a signature drive in the province to ask business tycoon Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco Jr. to run for president in 2004.

"This is our own initiative unlike the (Nationalist People's Coalition. Even if the Lakas-CMD hierarchy did not ask us to start a signature campaign, we did this because we believe in her administration," said Mercado, also president of the League of City Mayors-Eastern Visayas.

He also said "being a woman," President Macapagal is the "lesser evil" compared to the other presidential candidates.

Lerias, NPC provincial chair, earlier said they initiated the signature campaign based on the request of NPC president Frisco San Juan.

From July 6 to 10, Lerias said they gathered 10,000 signatures from Maasin and Southern Leyte's 18 towns.

The number already exceeded their target of about 8,000 signatures or five percent of 160,000, the province's voting population.

The campaign asked Cojuangco, chair of the food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp., to run for President to address problems on national security, economy and peace and order.

Cojuangco has not made up his mind whether to run or not for president. He was reported to be planning to move around the country to get the people's pulse before finally handing down a decision either in August or September.

Mercado said they were targeting 20,000 signatures or 75 percent of the city's more than 30,000 voting population.

He said he was talking with other Lakas-CMD leaders on the possibility of extending the campaign to other towns.

Mercado said he could not tell if their signature campaign would help convince Ms Macapagal to run in the 2004 presidential elections.

"I could not really tell if our initiative would change her mind but we want in our own little way our voice to be heard because we share the same vision of her administration," he said.

But he said Ms Macapagal would not be accused of being fickle-minded if there was a strong clamor from the people for her to run.

"It would be her pronouncement against the people's will," Mercado told the INQUIRER.

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INQUIRER Mindanao

Editor Jun Bandayrel
Bureau Chief Nico A. Alconaba

Hope springs from long-delayed irrigation

By Edwin O. Fernandez
Carmen, North Cotabato

FOR decades, Edwin Bandila used to waste time watching his unproductive farm like most of his peers in Sitio Ugalingan in Carmen, North Cotabato. They were wondering how they can make their farms generate income for them.

"In the past, only birds, wild animals and very poor people live here," said Bandila, 42. He now proudly sips creamed coffee while nibbling special bread.

The life of Bandila, vice president of the Maridagao River Irrigation System Irrigators Association Division 5 in Ugalingan, like other farmers near the once troubled irrigation project has drastically changed after water started to pour over barren land.

Bandila has become the epitome of a farmer who freed his family from the bondage of poverty. He now uses a cellular phone and drives a new motorbike to canvass the prevailing buying prices of palay in the urban centers of Carmen and Kabacan towns.

He attributed his fortune to the Malitubog-Maridagao Irrigation Project (MMIP or Malmar), which started in 1989 with a P1.2-billion financial assistance from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC).

The project site had been the scene of bloody encounters between soldiers and Moro rebels. The MMIP also caused disagreement between local residents and the National Irrigation Administration over right-of-way issues.

MILF rebels

A full-blown war erupted in the site after Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebels detained 10 Koreans working for the project. The hostages were freed after more than 10 days of negotiations led by then Presidential Assistant for Mindanao Paul Dominguez.

The crisis also brought Malmar, for the first time, to national attention.

The peace and order problem in the area led to the suspension of the project and the eventual termination of contract package No. MMIPI-C-1 under Shinsung Corp. on April 27, 1995.

When the MILF finally agreed to let the project takes its course, the engineers did their job. The project cost has since ballooned to nearly P3 billion and new contractors came in.

Now, a number of farmers are beginning to reap the benefits of the irrigation system.

Bandila alone owns about six hectares of irrigated fields, which produce a high-yielding rice variety at least three times a year.

He said his income tripled after his fields were irrigated, and he can now send all his five daughters to private schools and colleges.

"I strongly believed that peace and development begets productivity and productivity means income," he said.

Another farmer, Kadatuan Mamaluba, 53, said he sold his dilapidated tricycle to buy another farm after his idle land was irrigated last year.

Changing outlook

The lanky Mamaluba proudly showed to this writer his farm lot and explained that the coming of irrigation had changed his outlook in life. Undeniably, he used to carry guns to protect himself from lawless groups that prey on his work animals.

"Now that everybody is earning, peace and order is no longer the problem. I think the cattle rustlers sold their arms and bought farm lots, too, and they are now earning legally," Mamaluba, the irrigators association president, said in Filipino.

"Now we have electricity, TV sets and other household appliances that we never thought of owning several years ago. I can now feed my children with nutritious and expensive food," he added.

For Sam Abang, 56, the irrigation system also brought changes in his life.

"I am now thinking of sending my children to school, hoping that one day, they will earn the professions of their choice. My efforts to convince my village mates to do away with what is not legal had borne fruit," Abang, who is also called Kagi, said.

A respected elder in the community, he recalled that in the past, he would spend his time mediating between warring families. "Now, these families have no time to quarrel anymore because they are busy attending to their irrigated farms."

"I could also devote my time to farming instead of acting as trouble shooter," he said.

Model community

Abang said he wanted to turn Ugalingan into a model community that other Muslim villages could emulate.

One way would be the construction of schools, he said.

Noldin Oyod, Malmar manager, said the project, when completed, would also change the lives of other farmers in Maguindanao and North Cotabato. It would irrigate some 19,000 hectares of rice fields in the two provinces.

Oyod said with full-blown operations of the irrigation system, the government was expecting to spur various livelihood opportunities.

"The project was designed to reduce poverty by raising incomes through generating employment opportunities and increasing farm production and productivity," he said.

"This is [like] hitting two birds with one stone: solve the peace and order problem and transform people into productive citizens," he added.

President Macapagal Arroyo, during a visit in the area in September, 2001, described the project as a showcase for peace and development in Central Mindanao.

Bandila said the beneficiaries would make sure the President's dream is realized.

"We will play our small roles, whatever it may take to realize this vision in letter and spirit. In the end, it is us and our children's children who will enjoy the fruits of this project," he said.

Antonio Galvez, NIA deputy administrator for project development and implementation, visited the project site on Tuesday.

"I am glad to see people busy attending to their farms [now]. These areas used to be no man's land when I first visited Carmen in the mid-1990s," Galvez said.

RICE stalks find space in farms that once lay to waste amid strife and the delay in the construction of the Malmar irrigation project. Now, farmers watch their crops grow on land that used to be battlefield between Moro guerrillas and government soldiers.

EDWIN FERNANDEZ

Dorong Festival: Bagobos' coming out party

By Leonard Paul Palo
Davao del Sur

IN the small village of Kapatagan in Digos City, where the Bagobo tribe lives, I witnessed the unfolding of a truly colorful celebration of the Dorong Festival.

According to barangay tourism officer Edwin Sacdalan, it was the first time that the village celebrated the festival on June 14. The Bagobo had requested that the festivity be held to give thanks for a bountiful harvest.

"Dorong" is actually a prayer of thanksgiving, not just for the rich harvest but also in honor of their tribe.

The celebration started with the ritual war dance and the street dancing competition.

Like Baguio City's Panagbenga or Davao City's Kadayawan, the Dorong Festival has a parade of huge and colorful floral floats pulled by horses or carabaos along the main streets.

Some of Barangay Kapatagan's major products include cold climate vegetables like cabbages, potatoes, tomatoes, carrots and fruits like strawberries.

I was even surprised to see a giant cabbage float, which looked so real that you could almost take off a chunk and eat it.

From what I've seen, the Bagobos have some practices that may come off as a shock to some of us. For instance, they have this way of slaughtering horses that would make Hannibal Lecter look like an intern.

But in truth, the Bagobos are peace-loving citizens and they are very warm and cheerful just like most tribes are here in the south.

Sacdalan said one of the major highlights of this year's festival was the formal adoption or [illegible] of barangay chair Juanito Morales into the Bagobo tribe for his undying support and compassion for the lumad of barangay Kapatagan.

Originally, Barangay Kapatagan was named Rizal since its founding anniversary was on June 19, the same date as the national hero's birth.

Eventually, because of its topography and its close proximity to the country's highest peak, Mt. Apo, the townsfolk later changed the name to Kapatagan or "the Valley," which one can really see on a clear day on top of the mountain.

On a different note, Sacdalan hinted that as far as eco-tourism is concerned, Barangay Kapatagan is doing quite well especially with the creation of more farm to market roads where farmers can easily bring their goods to the lowlands for disposal.

In addition, the Mt. Apo Eco Tourism Society is also promoting a lot of activities to further boost the area's economy such as tree planting activities and some technical climbs to Mt. Apo like the recently held "Sustaining Mt. Apo" activity conducted by Pundok Habagat Davao.

But Sacdalan pointed out that climbers or mountaineers are not the only ones who should be blamed for the degradation of Mt. Apo. He also lashed at slash and burn farmers or "kaingeros" who recently settled in the area.

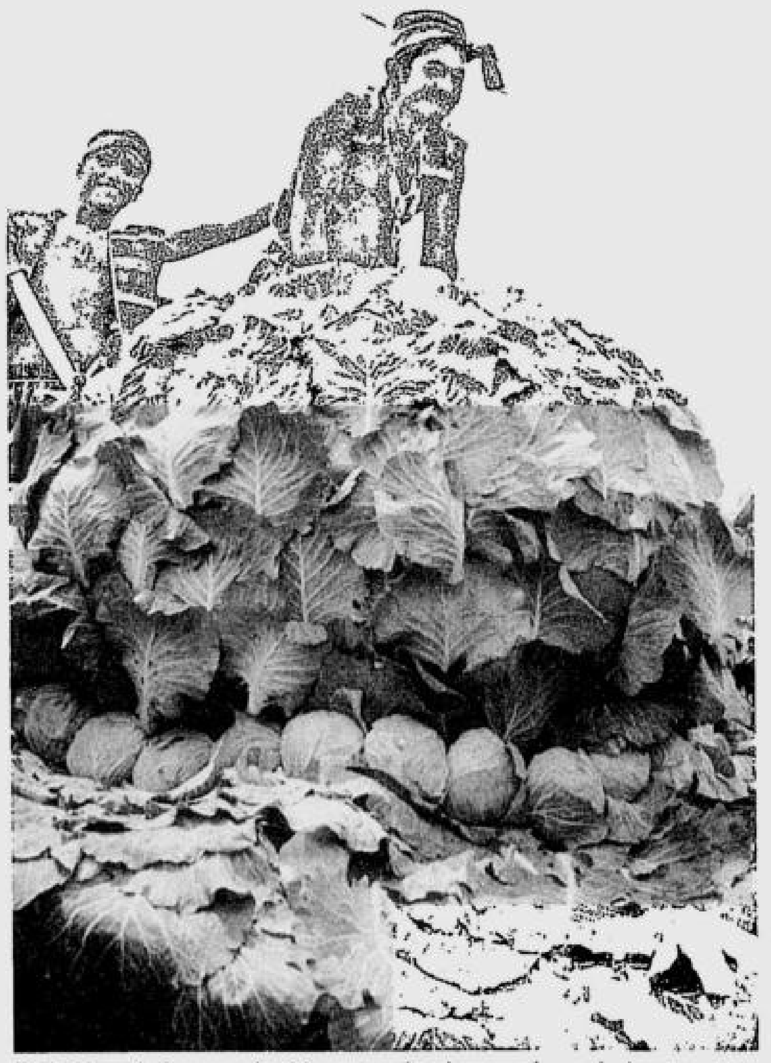
He explained that the damage inflicted by the visitors who scale the mountain is very minimal compared to what these reckless settlers are doing.

Sacdalan said that the concerned agencies namely, the DENR (Department of Environment and Natural Resources) and the PAMBI (Protected Area Management Board Inc.) are the ones who are tasked to handle the monitoring and regulation of these highly illegal and destructive activities.

Unfortunately, because of their incapacity, the locals have been forced to take on this job in order to maintain the beauty and the environmental serenity of the province.

"It's really disappointing to know that these agencies are not able to fully handle this task on their own. They really need all the help they can get. Not just from the government or from the locals but also from the mountaineers. In fact, PAMBI has an office here in the area which has been left completely useless," he chided.

Nevertheless, despite these setbacks, Barangay Kapatagan continues to thrive as one of the prime producers of vegetables here in the region and hopefully with all the effort being exerted by its local officials and the lumad, the area will grow to become one of Southern Mindanao's most sought after eco-tourism destinations.



FLOAT made from real cabbages makes its way through the streets of Kapatagan, Digos City during the Dorong Festival.

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SURFING ENVOY
US Ambassador Francis Ricciardone surfs the Net with high school students of the Mindanao State University–Tawi-Tawi on one of five computers donated to the school by the Growth with Equity in Mindanao (Gem) Program, which is funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID). Looking on are MSU Chancellor Eddie Alih and presidential assistant for Mindanao Jesus Dureza.

Water crisis looms, warns Gozun

SAN FERNANDO CITY—Water is everywhere and in abundance, but a crisis is looming on the horizon, Environment Secretary Elisea Gozun has warned here.

"On a macro-level, it appears there is plenty of water, but we are now experiencing problems and, in some instances, some areas (of the country) are suffering from lack of water," Gozun said.

Gozun, who inspected environmental projects here on Thursday, said the country's watersheds should be protected.

"We cannot talk of providing sustainable water to the people unless we protect the sources of the commodity—the watersheds," she said.

"Our mountains are denuded, and the watersheds are in a sorry state. We really have to do something now (to) protect the watersheds and properly manage (our) water resources."

Gozun said water experts discussed the degradation of watersheds in the world during the Kyoto Forum in Japan last March, which she attended.

According to her, a water crisis and its consequences could be prevented or at least delayed with proper water resources management.

One way of doing this, she said, is to collect rainwater. Located in the tropics, the Philippines experiences abundant monsoon rains, but the rainwater is dissipated without being used, she said. "We used to harvest this kind of water, but we have not been doing it."

Gozun also pointed to the need to recycle water to be used for plants, washing clothes, flushing toilets and cleaning cars.

She said the use of "quality water" for these purposes should be stopped.

"We have to harness treated wastewater, which is clean and can be used for other needs, except for drinking," she said. *Peter La. Julian, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

Iglesia appeals court ruling infringing on group's belief

By Philip C. Tubeza

MANALO

WHICH carries more weight—the constitutional provision on separation of Church and State, or a person's constitutional right to practice his religion?

The question came up after Iglesia ni Cristo Executive Minister Eraño Manalo asked the Court of Appeals to strike down a Manila court's decision declaring political endorsement by religious leaders unconstitutional.

In a 25-page petition for certiorari, Manalo said Manila Judge Concepcion S. Alarcon-Vergara acted with "grave abuse of discretion" in issuing the decision favorable to the Social Justice Society (SJS), a political party that questioned such endorsements of candidates.

INC doctrine

More importantly, said Manalo's lawyer, former Justice Secretary Artemio Tuquero, the SJS petition interfered with a doctrine of the INC, which encourages bloc voting among its flock.

Tuquero said the petition infringed on INC members' right to religious profession and worship, "which embraces the freedom to believe and freedom to act on one's belief."

The lawyer explained: "Every member of the INC firmly believes that men will be saved only if they act in accordance with the teachings of the Holy Scriptures, among which is the doctrine of unity."

And for INC members, he said, the "essence" of unity is to act in accordance with the church administration's decisions, "including the choice of candidates for public office."

Besides, Tuquero pointed out, INC members enjoy the right of suffrage as Filipino citizens. "How they should exercise such a right is a matter no one in a free and democratic country like ours can validly question," he said. "By voting as one, INC members are merely acting in accordance with their religious belief. Undoubtedly, such a manifestation of unity is not contrary to law, morals, good customs and public policy."

The SJS asked the Manila Regional Trial Court last Jan. 28 to issue an opinion on whether a religious leader's endorsement of politicians violated the constitutional provision on separation of Church and State.

Besides Manalo, the other respondents in the SJS petition were Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, Bro. Mike Velarde of El Shaddai, Jesus is Lord's Eddie Villanueva and Bro. Eli Soriano of Dating Daan.

On June 27, Vergara ruled that the head of a religious organization, who "influences or threatens to punish" any of his members could be held liable for coercion, a violation of a citizen's right to vote freely.

Advisory opinion

Tuquero said the SJS petition should have been dumped outright, since it sought an advisory opinion which did not involve an exercise of "judicial power" and, therefore, was beyond the competence of the Manila court to grant.

"Such an opinion would not be binding," he said.

The INC lawyer also questioned SJS's motives, hinting that the party might just be after media mileage. He suggested that SJS "focus on more worthy and meaningful causes and not waste precious time and effort on non-justiciable issues."

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, July 20, 2003
16th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Jer 23:1-6

"Woe to the shepherds who mislead and scatter the sheep of my pasture!"

This is the message of Yahweh, God of Israel, to the shepherds in charge of my people, "You have scattered my sheep and driven them away instead of caring for them. Now I will deal with you because of your evil deeds.

"I will gather the remnant of my sheep from every land to which I have driven them and I will bring them back to the grasslands. They will be fruitful and increase in number. I will appoint shepherds who will take care of them. No longer will they fear or be terrified. No one will be lost."

Yahweh further says, "The day is coming when I will raise up a king who is David's righteous successor. He will rule wisely and govern with justice and righteousness. That will be a grandiose era when Judah will enjoy peace and Israel will live in safety. He will be called Yahweh-our-justice!"

Eph 2:13-18

In Christ Jesus and by his blood, you who were once far off have come near.

For Christ is our peace, he who has made the two peoples one, destroying in his own flesh the wall-the hatred-which separated us. He abolished the Law with its commands and precepts. He made peace in uniting the two peoples in him, creating out of the two one New Man. He destroyed hatred and reconciled us both to God through the cross, making the two one body.

He came to proclaim peace; peace to you who were far off, peace to the Jews who were near. Through him we-the two peoples-approach the Father in one Spirit.

Mk 6:30-34

The apostles returned and reported to Jesus all they had done and taught. Then he said to them, "Go off by yourselves to a remote place and have some rest." For there were so many people coming and going that the apostles had no time even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a secluded area by themselves.

But people saw them leaving and many could guess where they were going. So, from all the towns they hurried there on foot, arriving ahead of them.

As Jesus went ashore he saw a large crowd, and he had compassion on them for they were like sheep without a shepherd. And he began a long teaching session with them.

Commentary

The apostles sent on a mission returned. They had so much to recount because so much had happened. Jesus listened to them, one by one, each later report trying to outdo the previous one. Sometimes they would break into a chorus, "I . . . ," each voice trying to drown the others. It was time to go to the desert, Jesus decided, by themselves, to rest awhile. The apostles looked at one another, embarrassed. They knew what he meant. Each time he went to the desert, he spent time in prayer. Yes, it was time for prayer. There were already too many I's, my's, mine's. It was time to empty themselves in humble prayer to make space for Him who worked all those wonders in and through them. Is Jesus inviting us too?

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

REMEDIAL LAW (EVIDENCE)—**Eyewitness identification**—In People v. Teehankee Jr., the Court explained that "while eyewitness identification is significant, it is not as accurate and authoritative as the scientific forms of identification evidence such as the fingerprint or the DNA test result. Some authors even describe eyewitness evidence as 'inherently suspect.'" Known causes of misidentification have been identified as follows: "Identification testimony has at least three components. First, witnessing a crime, whether as a victim or a bystander, involves perception of an event actually occurring. Second, the witness must memorize details of the event. Third, the witness must be able to recall and communicate accurately. Dangers of unreliability in eyewitness testimony arise at each of these three stages, for whenever people attempt to acquire, retain and retrieve information accurately, they are limited by normal human fallibilities and suggestive influences." When all of the above factors are taken into consideration, the probability that Pedro erred in identifying appellant as one of the perpetrators of the crimes becomes clearer. [Citations omitted.] [Justice Panganiban, Third Division, People v. Limpangog, G.R. No. 141438-40, Feb. 3]

BY R. B. VERA

Cool it, young officers advised by general

From page A1

complaints in black and white and submit it to officers concerned or the (military) leadership," he said.

But even as he encouraged the officers to come out in the open, Salazar chided them for choosing to be in the Army "*na alam nilang mababa ang sweldo* (when they know the wages are low)."

He said the complaining officers should have entered the Navy or the Air Force instead—"if they wanted good incentives."

While saying that anonymous complaints are "*dagdag panggulo lang* (more trouble)," Salazar vowed to personally look into the complaints.

Political handlers?

In an earlier interview yesterday over dzRH, Reyes said: "The issues that they are raising are legitimate concerns and we are undertaking a lot to address them. The problem is, each time we have an election, there are some sectors who use such issues to agitate the AFP."

He added: "I'm appealing to them not to agitate our Armed Forces."

But Sen. Rodolfo Biazon, a former AFP chief of staff, said Reyes should not waste his time targeting detractors like Honasan.

"He should be worried about his junior officers," said Biazon. "Because the issues they have raised are the ones that should be addressed."

Two Saturdays ago, President Macapagal-Arroyo summoned senior officers to shed light on Honasan's role and disclose the results of their bull sessions with the young officers, who have grumbled about low pay, the continued stay of retired officers in camp housing and graft.

According to Citizens Battle Against Corruption party-list Rep. Kim Lokin, a general she refused to identify had told her that the junior officers had been approached for a possible dialogue with politician-candidates who will run in next year's national elections.

"*May ibang candidates daw na gustong makisawsaw sa isyu* (There are candidates who want to get involved in the issue)," she said.

Asked if her general-source was referring to either Honasan or Biazon, Lokin declined to say.

She said the general assured her that no specific PMA class was involved, and that the restiveness mainly came from officers in Mindanao "because they are the ones who feel the heat in the battlefield."

Micro-management

Reyes scoffed anew at allegations that he has been micromanaging the Armed Forces since he assumed the post of defense secretary.

"That's not true. That was never an issue," he said in a phone interview, pointing out that charges of micro-management were never proved during congressional hearings into the June 2001 siege in Lamitan, Basilan.

The charges, Reyes said, first emerged in the wake of the siege, where the military was accused of allowing Abu Sayyaf bandits to escape with their kidnap victims from a hospital in Lamitan.

"They (the congressional investigators) had concluded that I never micro-managed the military. Unfortunately, that has been rehashed a lot of times," he said.

As defense secretary, Reyes said it was his job to give advice to the AFP chief of staff on matters concerning the military.

"As secretary of defense, I advise and support the President. I'm the President's alter ego. If it's necessary for me to get involved, I get involved. Otherwise, I don't get involved," he said.

"The President sees me as competent, respects and values my judgment."

Reyes bristled at calls for him to quit his post. "They should tell that to the President. Maybe she will listen to them," he said. Biazon had already called for Reyes' resignation last Friday.

Reyes reiterated that there was no reason for the junior officers to be anxious because their concerns were being "properly addressed."

He recalled that the President had certified as urgent a bill which seeks to standardize the basic pay of soldiers vis-a-vis that of public school teachers and policemen.

As to their concern over the continued stay of retired military officers in the 40-hectare Jusmag area in Fort Bonifacio, Reyes said that he has started coordinating with the officials of the Bases Conversion Development Authority to resolve this.

"We are taking steps to protect the AFP and the government interest in that area. If ownership of the area is transferred to the government, the proceeds will go to the modernization program," he said.

The BCDA has filed a case seeking the cancellation of fake land titles issued to the Southside Homeowners Association. It's pending before the Supreme Court, according to officials.

"We are also instituting reforms to address the issue of corruption," Reyes said.

Embattled man

Biazon belittled Reyes' call for people to stop agitating the military. "That should have been an anticipated reaction of an embattled man."

He explained that some of the complaints were "doable" by Reyes.

"He must handle these issues, which are within his authority to address," said Biazon.

He was referring to the issue of graft and corruption in the AFP and the housing problem involving overstaying retirees.

"These are things that are doable ... because whether they are addressed or not, these are legitimate grievances." Biazon also advised Reyes to leave to Congress the "pay and allowances issue."

He pointed out that Reyes could easily address the housing problem by implementing the policy that only commissioned and noncommissioned officers in active duty could occupy the military housing areas in Fort Bonifacio.

The Partido ng Manggagawa yesterday described the President's appeal for soldiers to insulate themselves from politics as a "futile" exercise meant to demobilize them.

"It is not meant to depoliticize the soldiers per se but to demobilize them as a potential force for change in alliance with the workers and the poor," PM party-list Rep. Renato Magtubo said. ***With reports from Michael Lim Ubac, Cynthia Balana, and Martin Marfil***

EDWIN BACASMAS

ARRIVAL honors for President Macapagal, who was the guest of honor at the pioneering graduation rites of the first Maritine Academy of Asia and the Pacific in Mariveles, Bataan.

JOAN BONDOC

"INTERPOL and the Asean chiefs of police are helping in the manhunt for Al-Ghozi," assures the director for police community relations Director Ricardo de Leon (left) and Sr. Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil during a press conference on Saturday.

Palace tells Ebdane: Find al-Ghozi ...

From page A1

Malacañang said the bounties for the two suspected Abu Sayyaf terrorists—Abdulmukin Ong Edris and Omar Opik Lasal—who escaped with him will remain at P2 million and P1 million, respectively.

But Interior Secretary Jose Lina said the reward for Edris has been increased to P3 million and for Lasal to P2 million.

Lina said the reward was being increased to encourage more people to come forward with information on the fugitives.

Given the grave danger that Al-Ghozi poses to the country and to the region, he said the amount of the bounties would compensate for the risks involved in giving information.

"This is also to ensure that anyone giving information leading to their capture can start a new life and relocate elsewhere," he said.

Lina reiterated that neither he nor Ebdane would resign, arguing that the escape had occurred within a police unit very far removed from the Department of Interior and Local Governments which he heads.

The DILG has supervision over the national police force.

"The incident happened in a subunit of a unit of a bureau headed by the PNP chief. That bureau is under the National Police Commission which is in charge of program coordination," said Lina, who also chairs Napolcom.

De Leon also rejected calls for the resignation of senior police officials, saying they would rather solve the escape first.

"This is a challenge to the leadership. We will confront the problem first. After the job is done, we'll submit ourselves to the judgment of the people," he said.

De Leon said the police top brass would institute a "top-to-bottom revamp in the Intelligence Group in the next few days.

Al-Ghozi's escape has been a major embarrassment to the government and has raised questions about Ms Macapagal's commitment to the global campaign against terrorism.

Six police guards are facing administrative charges while four are also facing criminal charges after it was found that security at the detention center was extremely lax with guards to the easily opened cells either absent or asleep.

Interpol, Aseanapol

The PNP has sought the help of the Interpol and the Asean Chiefs of Police (Aseanapol) to help in recapturing Al-Ghozi alive, according to Director Ricardo de Leon, the police community relations chief and spokesperson.

"He's still in the Philippines," De Leon added, citing intelligence information received from foreign police organizations.

But he declined to say if Al-Ghozi had been sighted since he and the two Abu Sayyaf bandits escaped last Monday.

Lina said the authorities are convinced that Al-Ghozi was still in the Metro Manila area.

The Aseanapol is an association of top police officials of the 10-member Association of Southeast Asian Nations.

After being criticized for saying that he wants Al-Ghozi captured "dead or alive," the embattled Ebdane has directed the police to get the fugitive alive at all costs, said De Leon.

"We want to know the motive and purpose ... who is the culprit behind the escape, and who assisted him," he told a forum at the Sulo Hotel yesterday.

Shortly after the escape, Ebdane confidently said that the three would be captured "dead or alive," but added that he preferred them dead, even broken into pieces, as long as they were recognizable. He drew a chorus of criticism for the remarks.

Al-Ghozi, Edris and Lasal bolted their detention cells in an old building of the Intelligence Group headquarters in Camp Crame before dawn last Monday, on the last day of Australian Prime Minister John Howard's visit to the country.

Conspiracy theory

Officials said investigators were still working on the theory that there was a conspiracy to spring Al-Ghozi and the two other inmates from jail.

"We're looking deeper into it. It was so timed with the arrival of the Australian prime minister. It was an embarrassment not only to the PNP but also to the government," he said.

After a reenactment on Friday of the escape route that the three detainees are suspected to have taken at the decrepit, two-story IG building, investigators observed structural defects, including a steel gate which could be opened even while locked.

"There was no single report of the defect since 1998 (when the building was constructed). They are supposed to do that, that's why we are filing a case," Senior Supt. Don Montenegro, chief of the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group's National Capital Region, said at the same forum.

Police had filed charges against four guards for laxity, infidelity in the custody of prisoners and falsification of public documents for declaring in their logbook that they had made checks during their shift, according to Montenegro.

Initial investigation had shown that one guard was sleeping while the other was having coffee during the escape, he said.

The CIDG is also considering whether to file charges against Abu Ali, a suspected Abu Sayyaf bandit, who reportedly guided the fugitives in their escape through the defective steel gate.

Ali had been hired as a utility man by the IG after he posted bail.

Custodial center

To prevent further prisoner escapes, the PNP is building a centralized custodial center for all high-profile detainees, including suspected terrorists, in Camp Crame, De Leon said.

"It will be finished in 45 days," he said, without giving details on the costs of construction and the capacity of the building.

BALINESE ROOF SHAKES
(Do you want an Asian design for your house?)

More homebuiders are now turning their eyes on designs that capture the natural beauty of the shores, hills and forests of Southeast Asia.

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Republic of the Philippines
COMMISSION ON ELECTIONS
Manila

IN THE MATTER OF THE AMENDMENT IN THE SCHEDULE OF THE RESUMPTION OF THE CONTINUING REGISTRATION
X - X

ABALOS, Sr., Benjamin S.	Chairman
TANCANGCO, Luzviminda G.	Commissioner
JAVIER, Rufino S.B.	Commissioner
LANTION, Ralph C.	Commissioner
SADAIN, Mehol K.	Commissioner
BORRA, Resurreccion Z.	Commissioner
TUASON, Jr., Florentino A.	Commissioner

Promulgated: 18 July 2003

RESOLUTION NO. 6260

This pertains to the amendment in the schedule of the resumption of the continuing registration.

Comelec Resolution NO. 6248 promulgated 10 July 2003 ordered, among others, the resumption of the filing of applications for registration of voters and transfer of registration records; the processing of the pending applications for registration of voters and transfer of registration records effective August 01, 2003 to September 30, 2003; and the meetings of the Election Registration Boards.

Considering that August 1, 2003 is a Friday, the Commission **Resolved**, as it hereby **Resolves**, to amend the above schedule of resumption of the continuing registration from August 1, 2003 (Friday) until September 30, 2003 to **August 4, 2003 (Monday) until October 31, 2003.**

Let the Election and Barangay Affairs Department and the Education and Information Department implement this resolution.

SO ORDERED.

BENJAMIN S. ABALOS, SR.
Chairman

LUZVIMINDA G. TANCANGCO
Commissioner

RUFINO S.B. JAVIER
Commissioner

RALPH C. LANTION
Commissioner

MEHOL K. SADAIN
Commissioner

RESURRECCION Z. BORRA
Commissioner

FLORENTINO A. TUASON, JR.
Commissioner

RAINY weather fails to dampen the enthusiasm of the crowd listening to President Macapagal's remarks during the Drug-Free Philippines program, an interfaith prayer rally at the Malacañang grounds on Saturday. MALACANANG PHOTO

MILF OKs Salamat to head peace panel

From page A1

meeting in Maguindanao, they considered separate requests from Malacañang and Malaysia for Salamat to head the MILF peace panel.

"Since all the obstacles have been cleared, there's no reason for the MILF not to allow chairman Salamat to sit as panel chair, as requested by the government and Malaysian authorities," he said.

He said the MILF would inform Malacañang and Kuala Lumpur about the decision in due time.

Agence France Presse quoted him as saying that other contentious issues between the government and the MILF would be discussed at the actual negotiations.

But MILF spokesperson Eid Kabalu said that as far as the elusive Salamat was concerned, chairing the MILF peace panel was the least of his concerns.

"He trusts Brother Murad. So technically speaking, he has yet to decide. The composition of our panel remains the same as of this time," Kabalu said.

But Kabalu could not say whether Salamat would agree to head the MILF panel in the light of the decision of the central committee, the rebel group's policymaking body.

"I cannot speak for him," Kabalu said.

But he agreed with observations that the peace talks could resume in a matter of days. "We are just waiting for the notice from Malaysia," he said.

Before yearend

With the impending resumption of the talks, the influential Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines said it was hopeful that a peace agreement would soon be forged.

"Perhaps in the next two or three months, unless the peace talks are sabotaged by some other groups—terrorist groups, for instance—I think it's reasonable to expect that the MILF and the [government] will come to a peace agreement," said Cotabato Archbishop Orlando Quevedo, CBCP president.

Quevedo said the resumption of the talks was made possible through the efforts of peace advocates in the government, in the MILF, and among the general public.

"The CBCP contributed a little bit to the process of peace today," he said, adding:

"The whole thing began with an open letter by the CBCP to the MILF and to the government of President Macapagal-Arroyo on May 5 to declare a ceasefire and to resume the peace negotiations."

Quevedo lauded the efforts of the Malaysian and US governments and members of the Organization of the Islamic Conference to bring the two sides back to the negotiating table.

But for the talks to succeed, the negotiators must have perseverance and patience, he said.

Happy for evacuees

Quevedo also said that with the lifting of the arrest warrants on MILF leaders and the suspension of military offensives, he was "happy for the evacuees."

"They can now return home and work without worrying about skirmishes between soldiers and rebels in their midst," he said.

Fr. Bert Layson, OMI, who has been very active in caring for displaced families in Pikit, North Cotabato, said the halt in the military offensives was a "timely and meaningful decision" for the people of Mindanao.

"I am very happy because it means it is the beginning of the resumption of the stalled peace talks," the priest said. "It also shows that the government is sincere in pursuing the peace process."

An indefinite ceasefire took effect yesterday between government troops and MILF rebels.

The Associated Press said the ceasefire eased a bad week for the President, which started with the embarrassing escape of three terror suspects, including Indonesian bomber Fathur Rohman Al-Ghozi, from the high-security detention center in Camp Crame.

The President has urged the MILF to help in a massive manhunt for Al-Ghozi. The rebels promised to turn him over if they find him.

Prospects for the resumption of the peace talks brightened last month, when Salamat formally denounced terrorism, a top government demand. Military and police officials have accused the MILF of having ties with the regional militant Islamic network Jemaah Islamiya, said to be linked to the Al-Qaida.

Months of sporadic talks in Malaysia were suspended in March following a series of bombings and raids in Mindanao that the government blamed on "terrorists" within the MILF. More than 200 people, most of them civilians, have been killed in the attacks so far this year. *With reports from AP, AFP*

Ka Roger wishes MILF good luck

By Delfin T. Mallari Jr.
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

LUCENA CITY—The spokesperson of the Communist Party of the Philippines yesterday wished leaders of the Moro Islamic Liberation Front good luck in their peace talks with the administration of President Macapagal-Arroyo.

But Gregorio "Ka Roger" Rosal also aired a warning to the MILF: "Be alert and always remain wary and suspicious of the history of scheming tricks by the puppet government. The GMA administration is not sincere in its peace efforts."

Rosal said the administration badly wanted to create "an illusion of peace" amid the conflict fueled by "the people's discontent" in time for the President's State of the Nation Address on July 28.

"*Pampapapogi sa kanyang Sona* [Brownie points for her Sona]," he said.

He also said Ms Macapagal has been "using her fake peace initiatives as a component of the psywar tactics and strategies designed by her militarist hawks."

He described the US participation in the coming peace talks as a "big trap loaded with dubious intentions."

When asked the chances for success of the coming exploratory talks between the government and the communist-led National Democratic Front, Rosal said: "It will all depend on the Philippine peace panel."

"But if the government will insist on imposing conditions on the revolutionary forces that will be tantamount to our surrender and capitulation, we might as well dismiss the prospect of peace under the GMA administration. We will just wait for another administration willing to talk on how to achieve the vision of a genuine peace," he added.

The government and NDF peace panels have agreed to hold another round of "informal talks" at the end of the month.

KC is new MTV vj, PDI 'Super' columnist

From page A1

with MTV.

"I'm passionate about people. Connections! Expressing something or getting messages across through music or art," she said with eyes full of vitality.

Cool

"I think that's also why I think doing MTV is so cool. The crew's like a *barkada* (gang), we always get along. They have a way of making you enjoy tapings and taking you for who you are."

Writing a column for "Super" will be an interesting way to document what is going on in the mind of this very mature, down-to-earth and fun-loving young lady, from her initial stints with MTV to living on her own in Paris.

Like a diary

"It'll record my thoughts, experiences, and all the other things that get absorbed at that moment."

While away, she'll be writing and studying at the same time.

"It's something good to do when at the café lounging around than as an assignment I'll have to sit down formally for or something so it shouldn't be a hindrance to school in any way at all."

"I wanna write about highlights or certain moments you can't pass up to share and write them like I would think them, almost take readers on a little ride each time."

How does she feel being away from the comforts of home?

"I look forward to my *sariling diskarte!* (making my own decisions) to being more positive and refreshed by the new things to do and see—to learning a whole different way of doing things."

Being young and already so successful, KC likes to take things one day at a time.

"I honestly am ambitious but I wouldn't say I think about success. It's more about if I'm content with how I worked on this thing today and if I was able to bring out more than what directors expected of me that day.

Purpose

But despite the accomplishments, KC stays grounded. "All the opportunities ... *Sobrang galing lang ni God.* (All from God), I cannot stop searching for what his purpose is for me. Why I get to do all these things and why I'm so passionate about the kind of work I'm doing now. There must be a reason for everything."

LIKE mother, like daughter: KC will be endorsing PH Care product. JOAN BONDOC

AETAS happily wait for their turn to receive their gifts from Standard Chartered Bank which sponsored gift-giving rites in Bamban, Tarlac, on Saturday. ROMY HORMILLADA

House works more for less . . .

From page A1

ber's power and fuel consumption.

The House's engineering service department estimated the "savings" in power and fuel expenses at P260,000.

De Venecia attributed the savings to the chamber's four-day work week. But when asked how long he intended to implement the scheme, he indicated that it had yet to be considered a permanent feature of House affairs.

"We're having it for a limited trial period," De Venecia said in a phone interview last weekend. "The Secretary General (Roberto Nazareno) and I will still have to study the results."

In his May 8 order setting the new schedule, the Speaker said the objective was, indeed, to reduce the House's bills for utilities. He also explained that the scheme would still be "in keeping" with the House sessions held thrice a week from Monday to Wednesday.

10 instead of 8 hours

Under the new schedule, all House employees report for work only from Monday to Thursday but put in longer daily service from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., for a total of 10 hours instead of the standard eight.

The new schedule is expected to give House employees more time to spend with their families, and relieve them of a day of taxing travel to and from work.

Figures faxed to the INQUIRER by House engineering service officials showed that the Batasan complex in Quezon City consumed 354,000 kilowatts per hour in June this year, or less 37,800 kWh less than in the same month last year.

If computed at P6 per kWh, the difference amounts to P226,800 saved.

In terms of fuel consumption, the House's motor pool (excluding the vehicles used by legislators) guzzled a total of 9,325 liters of gasoline and 5,970 liters of diesel in June. These were lower by 532 liters of gasoline and 1,609 liters of diesel that was consumed in May.

If the difference is computed at P20.45 per liter of gasoline and P14.95 per liter of diesel, the total savings in fuel expenses in June amounts to P35,005.

With 217 lawmakers and a support staff of around 2,500, the House is currently the only government agency that is running on a four-day work week. The other legislative chamber, the Senate, sticks to a regular, five-day work schedule although it also holds sessions from Monday to Wednesday, sometimes extending up to Thursday when certain bills have to be rushed.

But De Venecia said that if other government units could "study their every need and specify their priorities, a similar [shortened] work week can be arranged for them."

Curtains fall on veteran actors Moreno, Ramirez, Vargas

By Marinel Cruz

THE COUNTRY has lost three veteran actors in the last three days.

Vic Vargas passed away yesterday afternoon at the San Juan de Dios Hospital where he had been confined for two weeks after suffering a stroke. He was 64.

Earlier yesterday, Oscar Moreno, also known as the Clark Gable of the Philippines, died of cardiac arrest at the National Kidney Institute. He was 82.

Last Thursday morning, Cesar Ramirez died of cardiac arrest at St. Luke's Medical Center in Quezon City.

Ramirez, Arlen Quindoy Aguilar in real life, was 69. He had been in a coma since July 17.

Vargas' wife, Rosanna Zamora, told the INQUIRER that Vargas (real name, Jose Maria Marfori Asuncion) had been declared clinically dead by his doctors and had been dependent on a respirator.

It was time to pull the plug yesterday. "His body couldn't take it (pain) anymore," she said.

His remains were brought to the Manila Memorial Park in Sucat, Paranaque, where he would be cremated tomorrow.

Vargas started showing signs of distress on July 3, and his condition worsened the following day, said Zamora.

In the case of Moreno, complications from kidney and liver ailments triggered the heart attack, according to his daughter, actress Boots Anson Roa.

Moreno, Oscar Gamboa Anson in real life, had also been undergoing kidney dialysis since June, Anson-Roa added.

His body now lies in state at Funeraria Paz on Araneta Avenue, Quezon City. His remains will be cremated on July 24.

Ramirez was married to actress Alicia Vergel, with whom he has two children, Beverly and Ace Vergel. *With a report from Jocelyn Valle*

MORENO, Ramirez, Vargas: Sterling performances in movies.

P.4M seized from Rolito Go at NBP

NATIONAL Bilibid Prisons officials yesterday conducted a surprise raid and seized around P400,000 in cash from convicted murderer Rolito Go, as well as bladed weapons and cell phones from other inmates.

But Bureau of Corrections director Dionisio Santiago was quick to point out that Go's money came from a handicraft business which Go reportedly runs inside the maximum security compound of the Muntinlupa prison facility.

Go had been convicted for the 1991 killing of Eldon Maguan.

The raid was conducted at around 2:30 a.m. inside Building 8, which houses the Sigue-Sigue Sputnik group.

In an interview with the INQUIRER, Santiago said he ordered the raid and surprise inspections to flush out "contraband" like drugs and dangerous weapons.

The raid, added Santiago, was also meant to conduct a "physical check" on the inmates, especially the so-called VIP prisoners.

Santiago, a former Armed Forces Chief of Staff, explained that he instituted a strict physical check system of the inmates since he took over the NBP over a month ago. *Alcuin Papa*

Quadruplets' kin want to press raps

PRESIDENT Macapagal-Arroyo comforts Jocelyn Calisaan, mother of the ill-fated quadruplets, when she visited the family's home in Caloocan City yesterday.
VAL HANDUMON

GMA gives probers 15 days to wrap up investigation

By Tina Santos

THE CALISAAN couple yesterday told President Macapagal-Arroyo that they are bent on pursuing charges against the staff of the Manila Central University (MCU) Hospital that allegedly turned them away, resulting in the death of their quadruplet babies.

"All we want is justice for my babies," the mother, Jocelyn, told the President. "We want them (MCU staffmembers) to learn their lesson because we don't want other families to suffer from this. What if more babies die because of their negligence?"

Ms Macapagal yesterday assured the couple that there would be no whitewash in the investigation of the Calisaan quadruplets' death.

Clad in a black dress, Ms Macapagal arrived at the Calisaan residence on 2nd Street, Ana Bustamante, Caloocan, at 4:35 p.m. Health Secretary Manuel Dayrit was with the President.

"Don't worry, we will look into this," Jocelyn quoted Ms. Macapagal as saying.

Dayrit said he had already formed a fact-finding committee to look into the case.

The team would be composed of retired judge Samilo Barlongay (chair), Dr. Bu Castro of the Philippine Medical Association's Commission on Legislation and Ethics, Dr. Cynthia Cuayo Juico of the Philippine Pediatrics Society, Dr. Rosalinda Arandia, director of the Quirino Memorial Medical Center, and lawyer Angelito Grande, corporate secretary of the Philippine Health Insurance Corp.

The President also pledged to the couple P10,000 in cash to compensate them for the hospital bills they had incurred.

The pledge money would reportedly come from the funds of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office, according to a member of the President's staff.

Ms Macapagal gave the team members 15 days to wrap up the investigation.

The quadruplets--Maria Angelica, Maria Therese, Maria Angelene and Milagrosa Jhobelle--were born in a lying-in clinic in Caloocan City last Tuesday. Their mother was only in her sixth month of pregnancy.

Shortly after Jocelyn gave birth, the babies, who weighed only from 500 to 1,000 grams, were transferred to the nearby Manila Central University Hospital.

Valdimir, the father of the babies, claimed that some members of the the hospital staff treated them shabbily when they learned that the couple could not afford to pay the hospital bills.

The babies were transferred to the Jose Fabella Hospital in Sta. Cruz, Manila. Hours after the transfer, three of the babies died.

Milagrosa Jhobelle, who was earlier named Maria Jhobelle, died on Thursday night. She was buried on Friday afternoon along with her sisters in a common grave at the La Loma Cemetery.

DISTRESSING EXPERIENCE

She never thought she'd lose her phone this way

By Tarra Quismundo

FREELANCE illustrator Lyra Abueg Garcellano thought it was quite flattering to be the subject of an interview, much more for a kid's show that features people whom children could look up to.

Not everyone gets this chance, Garcellano thought. And she did not even ask for it.

So despite several changes in the schedule, she agreed to have the TV crew of IBC-13 over at their house in Quezon City Saturday last week.

The TV crew, all 16 of them, came at a little past noon aboard four cars and the station's van. They crammed the living room. By 1:15 p.m., the interview was over. After fixing some of the things they used for the setup, the crew left.

That's when Garcellano found out her cell phone was missing. Only one thing crossed her mind.

"I thought somebody from the crew may have accidentally taken my phone," said Garcellano, who is known for her "Atomo and Weboy" comic strip which appears in the JUNIOR INQUIRER, and a daily comic strip in the broadsheet.

It is these works that led IBC-13 to feature Garcellano in the show "Kidcetera."

"After they searched through their things, they could not find my phone. But they were the last ones who were in my home before I discovered my phone was lost," said Garcellano, who has never lost a phone before.

Garcellano bought her Nokia 3310 phone about two and a half years ago for almost P9,000. It was an original unit from Finland, and Garcellano has not made modifications in the phone's features. She had 227 names in her phonebook, mostly contacts in her job.

"As a freelance illustrator, I rely on my phone for calls from clients. Since I lost it, it's been very hard for me to get in touch with them," she said.

IBC-13 agreed to replace Garcellano's phone, on the day she lost it after the interview.

"We know how important it was for her. Out of goodwill, we agreed to replace her phone. But it was not an admission that somebody from my crew took the phone," said Lorna Feliciano, "Kidcetera" executive producer.

She added that she knew her crew well, and that this incident was the first in her almost 17 years of experience in television production.

"It's normal in an interview for a feature to have that many people in the crew because the setup is not that easy. The interview went well, it was not chaotic," Feliciano said.

Garcellano was given a 3315 last Friday as a replacement for the lost phone. But the unit was given after she rejected four replacement phones which were defective and not original.

Exasperated after being given defective units, Garcellano even suggested that she just be given an equivalent cash so she can buy the phone herself.

The station gave her P3,300 cash. Garcellano accepted it, though she knew it was not enough to buy the phone.

But Garcellano received a call from the station the other day.

"I was surprised that they called me and told me that they would ask somebody to go with me to buy a phone," she said. That's when she accepted to have the 3315, which costs P3,990.

She said she is happy that the incident has been settled, but added the experience has distressed her and her family.

"Not everyone in the IBC crew is to be blamed and there is still gratitude for efforts to arrive at a peaceful resolution. However, there has to be a way for them to police their ranks. The integrity of every person in any crew should always be guaranteed," Garcellano said.

Feliciano said that despite the incident, their interview with Garcellano is going to be aired.

"We thought she would be an interesting subject for our features. We have featured Gary Valenciano and national artists.

We just hope we have finally resolved this issue," she said.

"It would have been a very interesting experience," said Garcellano, adding that the interview was "most painful for a non-celebrity like me."

Transport groups to protest mayors' ticket system

By Alcuin Papa

LEADERS of transport groups have announced that they would be holding a strike tomorrow to protest the abolition of the single ticketing system in Metro Manila.

Leonora Naval of the Association of Taxi Operators of Metro Manila told reporters of the plan to strike on Friday night.

Efren De Luna of Philippine Confederation of Drivers and Operators-Alliance of Concerned Transport Organizations confirmed that the strike would push through on Monday.

De Luna said members of major transport groups had already agreed to hold the strike.

"If the mayors were to implement their own ticketing system, this would result in different fees for traffic violations," Maranan said. "Some of the fees might be out of the reach of our drivers. We might have to pass on the added fees to commuters."

The strikers, boasting of a membership base of around 200,000, threatened to paralyze transportation in Metro Manila.

Metro Manila mayors had agreed to implement their own traffic rules and issue their own traffic tickets in their respective areas.

This ex-janitor built his fortune on 'isaw'

By Amy Remo

IN 17 years of selling "isaw," Larry Convencido was able to put his children through private school, buy a tricycle, a second-hand car, and even a house and lot.

Isaw, that humble commodity from which Convencido had built his fortune, is simply pork and chicken intestines, grilled and served with sweet or spicy sauce.

Convencido, 41, has been an isaw vendor at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City since 1986. He caters mostly to students from UP, Miriam College and Ateneo de Manila University.

He would station his cart on a vacant lot beside the campus Postal Office, which is near the UP cooperative.

"I never thought this business would be such a success," Convencido said in Filipino. "It was hard at first, but I was dead set in making it work."

These days, he sells as much as 100 kilos of isaw. At P2 per stick, he could earn as much as P9,000 in one day, selling from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

He said he would allot P7,000 to buy the things he would sell the next day. The rest, he said, he would set aside for household expenses, payment for his six helpers, tuition of his five children and savings.

Business expansion

Convencido has also expanded his business. Aside from isaw manok (chicken) and isaw baboy (pork), he now sells tenga (ears) and balun-balunan (gizzard).

He started selling chicharong bulaklak (pork entrails) last year.

He recalled that when he was a janitor at LVN Pictures, a friend proposed to him the idea of putting up an isaw stand—something Convencido could do on his spare time.

As a janitor, he was receiving P15 a day—not enough to feed his family. Because of his low salary, he had incurred countless debts.

In 1986, he decided to give the isaw business [illegible] with only P40 at hand. He started with a small makeshift cart and a few kilos of isaw and tenga, which he would sell in UP after his work at LVN.

On his best days, he would earn P700. On other days, he would earn nothing. Even then, he would set aside P10 or P20 whenever he could.

"I live a frugal life to make ends meet," he said. "I never indulged in small luxuries. I don't smoke, drink or gamble."

Convencido struggled to keep his business afloat. In the 1980s, when vendors were still not allowed to sell their wares on campus, Convencido had to run at the sight of UP Police.

"My cart had been hauled to the station three times for illegal vending, and I was also fined five times for not wearing the prescribed uniform," said Convencido.

Aside from losing the day's earnings, he also had to pay P150 in fine every time he got caught.

Easy money

It was only in the early 1990s that UP finally allowed vendors to sell on campus.

In 1992, he had given up his job as a janitor at LVN.

"I could not work overtime for LVN so management would often reprimand me," Convencido said. "But I couldn't afford to give up the isaw business even for a day. I get our food from what I earn in selling isaw."

When he retired from LVN, he received P50,000 in benefits, which he unwisely invested in a power saw.

He spent P42,000 to buy the tool so he could go into logging—a profitable trade, according to his friends in Bicol.

But the trade was illegal, and Convencido ended up with nothing.

"I had been blinded by the promise of easy money," Convencido said. "I rushed into it without thinking. That's one of my regrets."

In the next few years, he tirelessly sold isaw and eventually acquired the reputation for selling clean, cheap and delicious isaw.

He said that he could not afford to slack off. He needed to maintain the quality of the food he sells to keep customers coming back for more.

"I greatly value my reputation and the quality of food I give, because once *masira ka sa* customers, you can kiss your business goodbye," Convencido said.

The former janitor strictly follows the campus guidelines on cleanliness.

He would buy his raw stock at Nepa Q Mart, where he is sure that the products have the approval of the Bureau of Food and Drugs.

"As long as the Filipinos' taste for isaw remains, you can count on me to sell them."

LARRY Convencido holds up sticks of 'isaw' that paved his way to fortune.
RANDY HORMILLOSA

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METRO
Editor Abelardo S. Ulanday

SUERTRES 9 1 8

SIX DIGIT (In exact order)
2 9 3 8 5 0

6/42 Luzon
2 5 9 12 26 36

Vis-Min
2 4 24 36 37 40

Anvil starts paying back wages

By Luige del Puerto

GARMENTS factory Anvil Ensembles has started paying its workers a settlement amount in back wages and unpaid benefits.

This has satisfied "for now" the Department of Labor and Employment and the Garments and Textiles Export Board.

As a result, the GTEB, which appropriates quota on exports, allowed the company to ship baby dresses to the United States worth about $8,000 yesterday, according to GTEB Executive Director Serafin Juliano.

Juliano said the shipment is part of an order worth $500,000 which Anvil received this year.

But a "preventive suspension" against the company remains, Juliano said.

Juliano said the GTEB has suspended Anvil's export license to pressure it to comply with DOLE's orders, and as a penalty for submitting "fraudulent documents" during an inspection.

"Every time there is an application (by Anvil) to export, we will check with DOLE and the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines. It will be allowed to export on a per order basis," he said.

Anvil was the subject of an INQUIRER special report early this month. The report said Anvil violated labor laws and offered its workers a weight-loss drug to keep them awake during three-day shifts.

Juliano said the TGEB executive committee met the other night with Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas, Anvil representatives Margie Lazo and Augusto Lazo, TUCP spokesperson Alex Aguilar and Anvil union president Lorna de la Cruz.

"We based our decision (to allow Anvil to ship its products) on the satisfaction of the workers," Juliano said. "(Also), for as long as DOLE agrees with the measures Anvil is doing, we can release its export license."

Juliano said GTEB would be evaluating Anvil from time to time to make sure it "is taking care of the welfare of workers."

TUCP field officer Rey Reyes said Anvil has already paid many of its workers up to P21,000 in back wages and unpaid benefits.

DOLE earlier ordered the company to pay its workers P5.8 million or P42,679.70 each.

Anvil has opted to settle with workers. It contended that the DOLE list of Anvil workers who should receive back wages and other benefits was outdated, and should therefore not receive uniform payment.

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VARGAS

■ From 'isaw' to riches /A17

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Editor **Teddyvic S. Melendres**
Assistant Editor **Edwin M. Villanueva**

Kobe charged, admits adultery

EAGLE, Colorado—Kobe Bryant was charged Friday with sexually assaulting a 19-year-old woman in a case bound to tarnish the career of one of the NBA's brightest young superstars.

Bryant denied the charge, fighting back tears at a news conference in Los Angeles and saying he was guilty only of adultery.

"I didn't force her to do anything against her will. I'm innocent," he said, with his wife, Vanessa, at his side. "I sit here in front of you guys furious at myself, disgusted at myself for making a mistake of adultery.".

The 24-year-old Los Angeles Lakers' guard faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation if convicted of the single felony count, Eagle County District Attorney Mark Hurlbert said.

Hurlbert said Bryant forced the woman into "submission" through physical force but refused to disclose other details.

The woman worked at the front desk of the exclusive spa in Colorado where Bryant was staying while in the state for knee surgery. Hurlbert said she would not be made available for comment.

Bryant, free on $25,000 bail, must return to court in Eagle on Aug. 6 for a hearing.

Bryant's attorney, Pamela Mackey, said he will plead innocent. Speaking at Bryant's news conference at the Lakers' arena, Mackey said the defense will be that the sexual encounter was "between two consenting adults."

Bryant needed several seconds to compose himself before speaking, and his voice quivered once he started. His wife, who had their first child in January, held his right hand.

"I love my wife with all my heart. She's my

KOBE/ A21

REUTERS

BRYANT (right) cries as he admits to adultery in front of his wife Vanessa.

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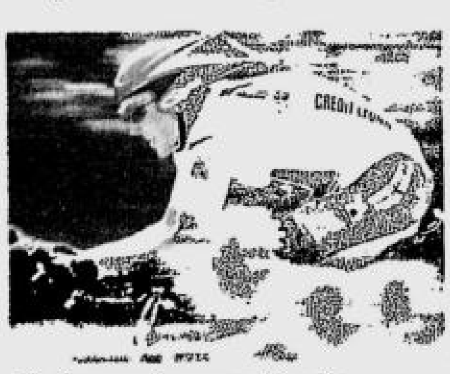


- Armstrong feels the heat in Tour /A24
- West Bound eyes sweep today /A25

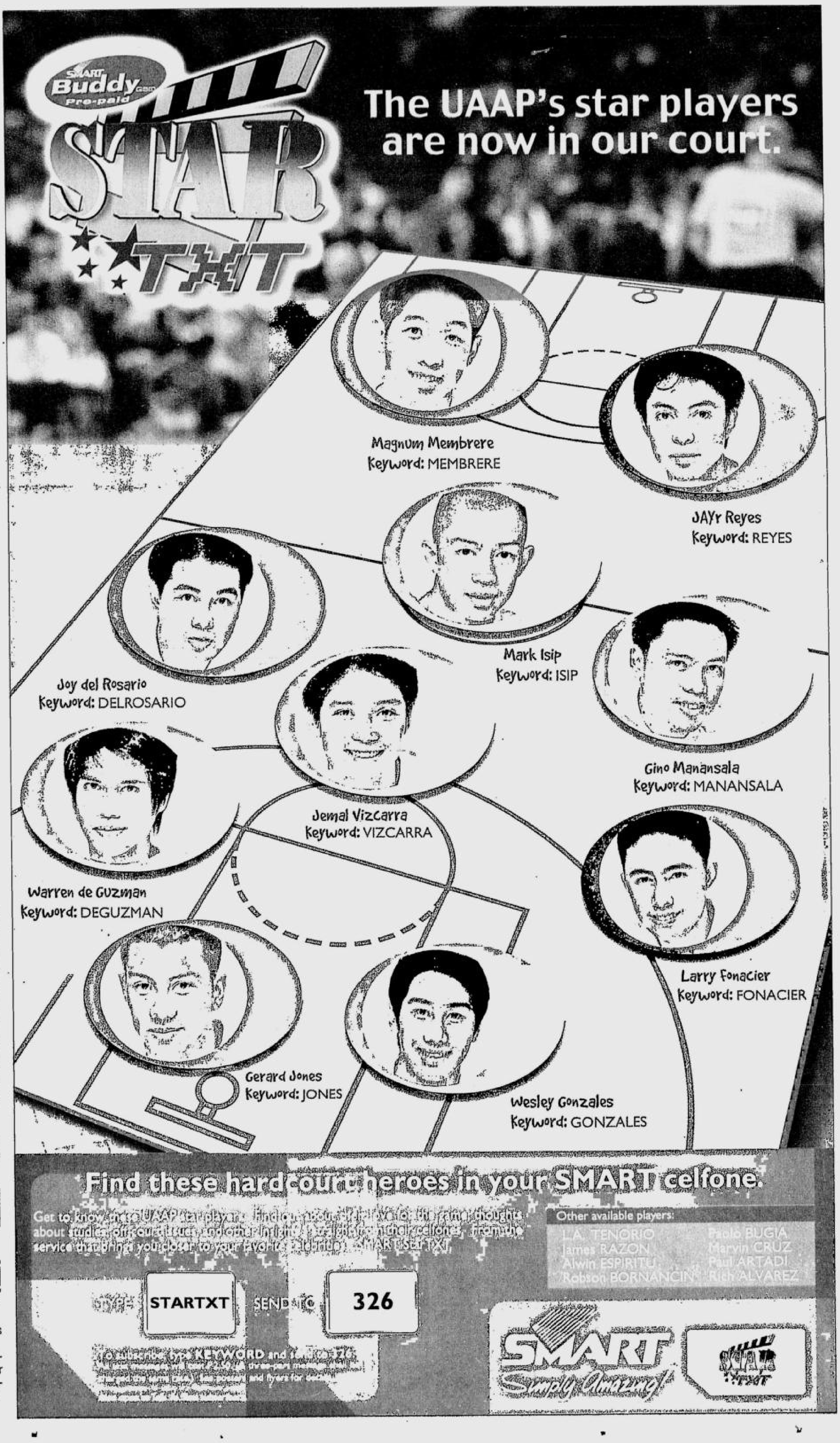
SPORTS TV

Compiled by L. Manguiat

POOL: World Pool Championship 2003; Semifinals; 12:30 p.m. (r), Finals; tomorrow at 2 a.m.; Star Sports—The moment of truth has arrived for the best cue artists.

MOTOR SPORTS: Foster's British Grand Prix Qualifying; 2:30 p.m.; Race Day; 7 p.m.; Star Sports—Find out who gets doused with champagne in this critical race in Silverstone, England.

Schedules subject to change without prior notice.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Aces, Gins dispute last Invt'l berth

GAMES TODAY (*Cuneta Astrodome*)
4 p.m.—Purefoods vs Sta. Lucia
6:30 p.m.—Alaska vs Ginebra

By June Navarro

THIS is no championship match but Barangay Ginebra and Alaska will treat it as such when they clash today at the Cuneta Astrodome for the right to join the much-ballyhooed Samsung-PBA Invitational Championship.

The Gin Kings turned the 6:30 p.m. match with the Aces into a do-or-die tiff after overpowering Shell, 102-82, Friday night, eventually booting out the Turbochargers in the one-round race for the last and final seat to the league's second conference.

The winner joins five other PBA teams which earlier qualified based on their records in the eliminations of the All Filipino eventually won by Talk 'N Text recently.

Rounding out the cast are three foreign squads and the RP men's basketball team preparing for the Vietnam Southeast Asian Games this December.

Alaska goes into the match with a 3-0 record but Ginebra at 2-1 not only will gain a tie with a win but advance as well since the winner-over-the-other rule will be used to break the deadlock.

"We're going all out against Alaska. Except for (7-footer) EJ Feihl, I believe we can match their offensive strength," said Barangay Ginebra coach Allan Caidic, who has yet to win against the Aces this season.

Caidic noted that Ginebra's two previous losses to Alaska were so close that a little bit of luck could have reversed the outcome. "I hope we can make amends (for those losses) this time," he added.

The earlier qualifiers aside from Talk 'N Text, are FedEx, Coca-Cola, San Miguel Beer and Batang Red Bull.

Making up the foreign challenge in this event where a $20,000 prize will go to the winner are the Yugoslavian junior national team, the Jilin Yi Qi Tigers of the Chinese league and South Korea's Yonsei University.

Sta. Lucia Realty, which bowed out of the race after a 93-86 overtime loss to Alaska Friday, and Purefoods, the first of the five teams to get the door, collide in the 4 p.m. preliminary.

PBA to leave if ads remain

UNLESS the Araneta Coliseum management removes all non-Philippine Basketball Association advertisements on its walls, the league will have no choice but to play somewhere else.

This was the blunt message of PBA Commissioner Noli Eala after the marketing arm of an unwanted sponsor reneged on its obligation to pay the league for an ad on the playing area of the Big Dome.

Eala said the P5-million check issued by Beam toothpaste marketing officer Nelson Macaraig was dishonored for insufficient fund, leaving the PBA with the option of either completely severing its ties with the sponsor or bringing the case to court.

"It definitely ended our relationship with Beam," said Eala of the bouncing check. "We'll try to study if bringing the case to court would be viable," he added.

The cheque was supposed to represent Beam's one-year payment for its ads in the Big Dome and the Philsports Arena.

After learning that the check had bounced, Eala immediately decided not to schedule the games on the two venues. *June Navarro*

RICHARD Alonzo of Adamson (left) shoots over the outstretched arms of Ollan Omiping and Rolly Masbang of UE. AUGUST DE LA CRUZ

Archers, Warriors share top

GAMES TODAY (*Loyola Gym*)
2 p.m.—FEU vs NU (srs)
4 p.m.—Ateneo vs UST (srs)
6 p.m.—Ateneo vs UST (jrs)

By Dennis U. Eroa

ROOKIE swingman Joseph Casio played big in the homestretch as La Salle wore down University of the Philippines, 67-58, even as University of the East beat Adamson, 74-61, yesterday in the UAAP men's basketball championship at the Loyola Gym.

Casio, a recruit from the talent-rich San Beda High known as a "factory" of future stars, banged in five points, including a triple, as La Salle subdued the Maroons, whose bid to end an 11-game losing streak to the Archers fell in disarray mainly because of their atrocious 15 of 37 free throw shooting.

Earlier, Ollan Omiping sparkled as the Red Warriors overcame a 26-point effort by Mark Anthony Abadia to shoot down the Falcons.

The second straight victories lifted the Archers and the Warriors to a three-way logjam for first with idle Far Eastern University.

Despite playing with an untested crew, the Archers remained deadly with a tireless press that forced the Maroons to make hurried shots and successive turnovers.

Slotman Kenneth Robin, who won his showdown with La Salle's foul-prone center Carlo Sharma, sank four straight baskets as UP threatened at 53-51.

But disaster struck for the Maroons, whose last win over the Taft-based Archers was a 69-66 decision on Aug. 9, 1997 at the Loyola gym during the time of now Sta. Lucia Realty swingman Paolo Mendoza.

SCORES

Second Game (Srs)

UE 74—Omiping 14, Yap 12, Artadi 12, Booker 11, Estrada 7, Canaleta 7, Masbang 4, Ronquillo 4, Tan 3, Butel 0, Labagala 0.

ADAMSON 61—Abadia 26, Tiongco 18, Tagupa 7, Catabay 4, Bono 3, Gandarosa 2, Alonzo 2, Hate 2, Kong 0.

Quarters: 24-12, 44-25, 57-45, 74-61

Third Game (Srs)

LA SALLE 67—Cardona 14, Casio 12, Tang 10, Gaco 10, Ramos 7, Benitez 4, Arana 3, Cabatu 3, Yeo 3, Sharma 2, Gavino 0.

UP 58—Robin 16, Bornancin 8, Ibanes 7, Almeda 7, Epres 6, David 5, Reyes 4, Cervantes 2, Tabique 2, Ferrer 1.

Quarters: 21-18, 31-32, 50-47, 67-58

Inquirer enters badminton semis

THE PHILIPPINE Daily Inquirer and Bingo Bonanza took different routes in reaching the semifinals of the first Sportshouse Corporate and Celebrity Cup Invitational Badminton Tournament Friday night at the SM Megamall Atrium.

PDI routed CB-Richard Ellis, 5-0, to forge a semifinal showdown with Crossover-HSBC; while Bingo Bonanza edged Nokia, 3-2, to advance against unbeaten Dive Shoppe.

PDI president and team coach Sandy Prieto-Romualdez, a former national player, and Judy Lim outclassed Anali Arcinas and Carol Halili, 11-7, 11-2, in the ladies' doubles 35 years and above division.

"We have a good chance in the semifinals but we don't want to be complacent. We're going to do our best," said PDI Senior VP for Corporate Services and team manager David Valdes.

Alex Reyes and Valdes lost the first set but went on to win the men's doubles 35 years and above category over Kingson Sian and Salvador Vengco, 9-15, 15-7, 15-12.

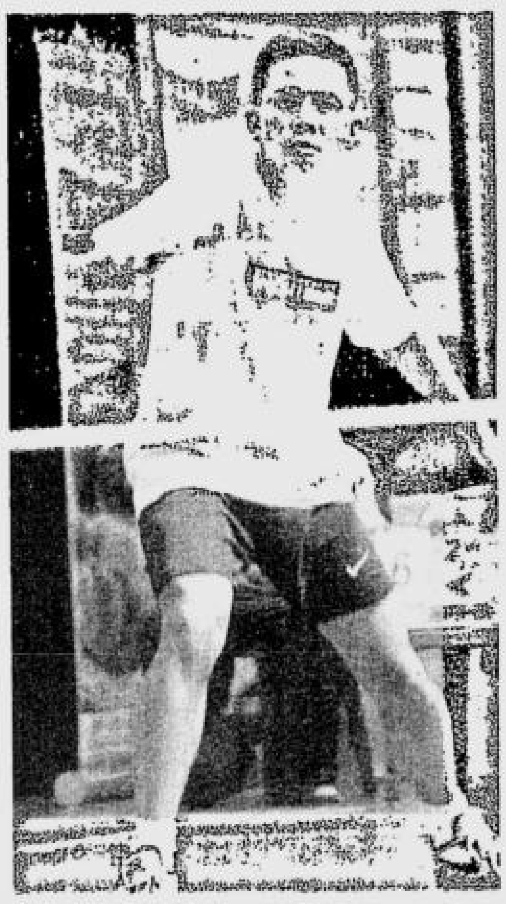
Amanda Carpo and Gem Padilla defeated Pinky Se and Charmaine Radovan, 11-4, 11-4, in the ladies' doubles 35 years and below class, John Nery and Raul Marcelo rallied to down Ryan Isip and Joey Radovan, 13-15, 15-5, 15-2, in the men's doubles 35 years and below division while Manila Polo Club player Raymond Rufino and Isabel Barangeran prevailed over John Aquino and Heidi Labrador, 9-11, 11-3, 11-4, in the mixed doubles open category

The Bingo Experts got the marginal point from Eric Mananquil and Jimmy Lopez, who beat Jay Esconde and Sumit Sharma, 15-9, 15-1, in the men's doubles 35 years and below division.

Nokia took the opening match courtesy of Maan Herrera and Mercy Florencio, who crushed Pauline Santiago and Yasmine Saturia, 11-2, 11-2, in the ladies' doubles 35 years and above division.

Bingo fought back for a 2-1 lead after Albee Benitez and Al Alonle scored a 15-7, 15-2 win over Zain Amiv and Kent Sitaca in the men's doubles 35 years and above while the ladies' doubles 35 years and below team of Jo Lee and Kathlyn Esguerra outclassed Amy Esconde and Jean Leonor, 11-5, 11-3.

Nokia's Martin Fernandez and Beth Ng won the mixed doubles open class over Kit Lopez and Gina Abo-Hamda, 11-2, 11-3.



INQUIRER'S Alex Reyes AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Fistorama features 4-round cards tomorrow

TWO exciting four-rounders in the minimum weight and super lightweight divisions will be featured in today's Samsung's Fistorama.

Reggie Adan faces Noel Loyola at 105 lbs. and Marvin Morales and Greggie Taon-on squares off at 140 lbs. The fights were held recently at the Malacañang Park.

The weekly show is produced by Joe Cantada Sports. It is aired weekly in the United States, Australia, Japan, the Middle East and soon in Europe through ABS-CBN's Pinoy Central TV. Sponsored by Samsung Electronics Phils. Corp., the show will be aired today at 3 p.m.

Pacquiao suffers from 'overdose'

PACQUIAO: Less than worried. PDI PHOTO

By Recah Trinidad

LOS ANGELES, California—He's been diagnosed to be in peak form, but handlers of Manny Pacquiao may have no choice but to scratch fight tapes of the challenger from the champ's training menu.

These videos are, indeed, both rich and delicious. They are an open window to the strengths and weaknesses of Emmanuel Lucero, the unbeaten Mexico-born rib-crusher who will try to take Pacquiao's world 122-lb crown at the Grand Olympic Stadium here on July 26.

The videos were honestly revealing.

In fact, Pacquiao, after only a first helping, has agreed to change initial fight plans.

He had sensed imminent danger in Lucero's blazing body punches.

Do take note however that alarm had visited Pacquiao only after that first viewing of the tapes early this week.

He would readily agree that Lucero, who evidently knows how to use the ring, could hit very hard, mainly from inside. This was the reason Pacquiao has agreed to fight at a distance.

Fine. Those tapes were savory.

But when the INQUIRER again contacted Pacquiao at his hotel room around Hollywood on Thursday, he sounded overfed, and less than worried.

This time, Pacquiao put his guard down and swore that Lucero, with his open, swinging offensive style, tends to be an easy target—"*Buka, galing sa labas ang suntok, maluwag.*"

An objective diagnosis would reveal that Pacquiao was obviously suffering from an overdose of unnecessary details from the Lucero tapes.

Rod Nazario, Pacquiao's manager, however, said he fully agreed with the champ that Lucero could be hit easy.

Nazario also bared that, with no weight problem in sight, trainer Freddie Roach has declared Pacquiao in peak form.

Just the same, Nazario reported that Pacquiao continues to run 45 minutes every morning, other than training twice, in the morning and afternoon.

Pacquiao had a no-holds-barred 12-round sparring with a Japanese light-welter early this week, another eight rounds with a lightweight the other day, and should be able to total 100 rounds of sparring in time for the championship date.

Pacquiao himself has temporarily adopted the life of a hermit, agreeing to leave his room at the Vagabond Inn in Hollywood only to jog, eat and work out.

He was there alone again to answer the INQUIRER call on Thursday, although he did not sound as tight and tense as he did on Tuesday.

He has also refused to be awed by Lucero's unblemished record.

One reason the challenger has remained unbeaten, Pacquiao said, was that Lucero could've been feasting on patsies— "*Mga tuktuk driver siguro ang mga tinatalo.*"

Remember, this new observation came as a result of that second helping of the Lucero fight tapes.

With that, who could stop Pacquiao from declaring he could retain his International Boxing Federation superbantamweight crown with only one hand after he's allowed a third viewing of the Lucero fight videos?

His handlers could provide Pacquiao the proper nutrients.

Young jin gains semis

PAOLO Miguel Angeles, a 13-year old high school sophomore at Don Bosco Makati, provided a glimpse of the future when he made it to the boys' over 152-160 cm semifinals in the Samsung Best of the Best taekwondo championships at the Glorietta Activity Center in Makati City.

A gold medalist in the US Open competition last February, Angeles whipped Samuel John Arellano of Letran, 7-5, to arrange a meeting with Baguio's Domingo Rico Jr.

Angeles drew wild applause from the big crowd as he repeatedly rocked Arellano with bullet roundhouse kicks throughout the three-round contest.

Sisters Ynah and Alyssa Bonifacio of Batangas hurdled their respective rivals to make it to the final four in the girls' division of the tourney organized by the Philippine Taekwondo Association, managed by IMG, sponsored by Samsung and supported by Accel, Philippine Star, Colours, Kix, Ayala Center and 103.5 K-Lite.

Ynah, a champion last year, beat KC May Panis, 6-1, in the over 136-144 cm class, while Alyssa, a former bronze medalist, outclassed Alyssa Amican, 21-4, in the 128-136 cm group.

Ynah will face Joanna Angeles, who nipped Jonelyn Ruiz, 1-0, while sister Alyssa will go up against Tranz Aira-Aguilar, 4-3 winner over Patricia Marie Soriano.

Bryant fans, sponsors stunned

LOS ANGELES—National Basketball Association peers and corporate sponsors were stunned Friday to find Kobe Bryant accused of sexual assault charges from a 19-year-old woman and facing possible life imprisonment.

But no matter how the Colorado court trial ends, the All-Star guard's confession of a sexual encounter has upset his wife Vanessa and cost Bryant the "good guy" image he made leading the Los Angeles Lakers to three NBA titles.

The accusation alone could mean millions of lost dollars in endorsements, removal from the 2004 United States Olympic squad and anger from fans, many of whom are likely to protest at games if Bryant plays under a cloud of suspicion.

"He's in a no win situation," retired NBA star Charles Barkley said. "If he gets off, he's clean. But there's always going to be a faction of people who think he got off because he's Kobe Bryant."

Bryant is paid between $11 million and $15 million a year in endorsements. Nike signed a $40-million endorsement deal with Bryant for the next five years.

But Nike spokesman Nigel Powell had little support in reaction to the news.

"We're pleased to have a relationship with Kobe Bryant. He's a great player," Powell said. "Kobe has stated that he is innocent of the charges filed today. Understand this is a legal matter and we cannot comment further at this time." Even as other corporate sponsors and league officials took a wait and see attitude with carefully worded statements, Bryant's NBA peers gave him unqualified support.

"He has shown he's a good person," NBA veteran Ray Allen said. "They are just allegations.

AFP

Kobe charged, admits adultery

From page A19

backbone," he said, turning to her.

Earlier, Vanessa Bryant released a statement, saying she is standing by her husband. "He is not a criminal," she said.

The case has riveted the sports world for nearly two weeks because it involves one of the NBA's most magnetic stars. Bryant has also used his clean image to land lucrative endorsement contracts.

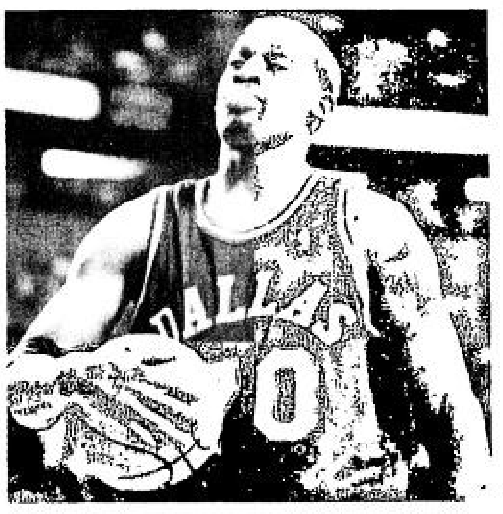
Just last month, he signed a multimillion-dollar sneaker deal with Nike to go with contracts he already had with Sprite, McDonald's and Spalding.

The case also raises questions about Bryant's summer plans and whether he will be able to play with the US Olympic qualifying team, which begins practice Aug. 10 in New York.

"Naturally, we're disappointed with today's announcement," Lakers general manager Mitch Kupchak said. "While there are many questions concerning this issue, we will wait for time and the judicial process to answer them."

Bryant is accused of assaulting the woman June 30 at the gated Lodge & Spa at Cordillera in nearby Edwards. Bryant, who was having surgery in Vail, arrived at the lodge that day.

AP



RODMAN: This is no hoax. REUTERS

Rodman eyes another return

LOS ANGELES—Seven-time NBA rebounding champion Dennis Rodman wants to make another comeback.

"It has been two years going nuts, partying, and in the last four months I've lost 18 pounds and I am getting mentally prepared to return to the NBA," Rodman said Friday at a news conference. "This is no hoax, this is real. I want to perform like I did in those Chicago days."

The 42-year-old Rodman, who has a history of run-ins with the law, was a key member of three championship teams with the Bulls from 1996-98. He also played for two championship teams with the Detroit Pistons earlier in his career.

"My choice would be to play for the Kings or Lakers because I want to live in California, but if the Nets are interested, I would go there," Rodman said.

The controversial 2.03-meter (6-foot-8) forward hasn't played since being released by the Dallas Mavericks after a 13-game stint late in the 1999-2000 season.

AP

Django keeps hopes alive

THE CROWN is again within sight and Francisco "Django" Bustamante hopes to finally nail it down this time.

Bustamante, last year's losing finalist, bested fellow Filipino Efren "Bata" Reyes, 11-8, Friday to advance to the quarterfinals of the 2003 World Pool Championship at the Cardiff International Arena in Cardiff Wales.

Immediately blocking Bustamante's path is German Thorsten Hohmann, who joined the last eight with an 11-5 victory over Canadian Luc Salvas.

Having survived Reyes, his friend and idol, however, Bustamante is confident of hurdling Hohmann Saturday and staying in the hunt for the title American Earl Strickland took away from him last year.

"I'll try my best to win for my family and my country," said Bustamante, who was the lone man standing for the nine-man Team Philippines being supported by Puyat Sports, through top honcho Putch Puyat.

Strickland, also the lone US survivor, needed a lot of scrambling before pulling through against six-time world snooker champion and local hero Steve Davis, 11-9, in the round of 16.

Again, Strickland will have to contend with another tough opponent—Taiwanese Yang Chin-Shuen—in the quarterfinals.

The 25-year-old Taipei hotshot humbled 2001 world champion Mika Immonen of Finland, 11-5, Friday to appear as a major contender for the $65,000 (P3.4 million) top prize. Yang's stock was also boosted by his similarly easy 9-3 conquest of US Open reigning titlist Ralf Souquet of Germany Thursday.

Also advancing to the quarterfinals, where losers are guaranteed $8,000 (P424,000) are Canada-based Filipino Alex Pagulayan, Korean Park Sin-young, Taiwanese Hsia Hui-Kai and Malta's Tony Drago.

BUSTAMANTE (right) aims for his shot as Reyes watches.

Pagulayan, the elimination phase topnotcher, ended the run of Filipino qualifier Ramil Gallego, 11-5; and is slated to meet Park, who downed Dutchman Alex Lely, 11-5.

Hsia, 11-4 victor over Swede Marcus Chamat, will battle Drago, 11-9 winner over American Marcus Chamat, in another quarterfinal duel.

Roy Luarca

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BRITISH OPEN

Love, lone survivor to par, leads 'em by 2

SANDWICH, England—Davis Love III saw his ball bouncing toward a creek and thought it was headed toward a double bogey. Instead, he made par.

Tiger Woods stood over a 3-foot putt, ready to sign for a par. Instead, he wrote down double bogey.

Just another British Open, where the humps and hollows of links golf tend to create all sorts of craziness.

US Open champion Jim Furyk? He missed the cut.

S.K. Ho, Hennie Otto and Marco Ruiz? They're heading to the weekend.

Par? Fuhgeddaboutit.

Davis Love III, the sole survivor to par at Royal St. George's, used a freak bounce and three clutch putts to build a two-shot lead Friday in the British Open.

Still, he spoke cautiously about heading into the weekend with 27 players—Woods and defending champion Ernie Els among them—within five shots of his lead.

"This is one that gets you focused on the task at hand," Love said after his 1-over 72. "It keeps you from thinking about other players. That's why this tournament is going to be so hard to win. It's not going to be just a golf shot, or a putting contest.

WOODS, left, and Spain's Sergio Garcia walk from the 18th green after finishing the second round. AP

"It's going to be a big mental test."

Love passed the first two stages and was at 1-under 141, giving him his first lead on the weekend at a major since he won the 1997 PGA Championship at Winged Foot.

No one is sure what to expect over the next two days, because nothing about Royal St. George's is ever as it seems.

Woods was closing in on the lead as he stood over a routine 3-footer for par on the 12th hole. Three putts later, he had a double bogey and staggered home to a 72, four shots out of the lead.

"I hit a lot of good shots, made a ton of putts," Woods said after a 72 left him four strokes behind. "I just had the one hole where I hit more putts than I should have."

Even more bizarre is what happened to Love.

Coming off back-to-back bogeys, his lead down to a single shot, Love's drive flared out to the right on the par-5 14th hole, toward a row of white posts with a creek called the Suez Canal on the other side.

The ball hopped hard to the right, nowhere to go but out of bounds, until it caromed off the 7-centimeter (3-inch) wide post and back into play.

"We're all going to get crazy bounces," Love said. "But I think that was three good bounces all used up in one hole."

He made par instead of double bogey, the margin of his lead. It didn't make the next two days any easier.

Ho, a South Korean who plays on the Japan Tour, struggled down the stretch to a 73 and Thomas Bjorn of Denmark had a 70. They were at 143.

Three strokes behind were Sergio Garcia (71), Kenny Perry (70) and Thomas Levet (73), the Frenchman who lost to Ernie Els in a playoff at Muirfield last year.

As for the Big Easy? Don't count him out, either. *AP*

2nd round scores:

141—Davis Love 69-72

143—S.K. Ho 70-73, Thomas Bjorn 73-70

144—Alastair Forsyth 74-70, Ben Curtis 72-72, Hennie Otto 68-76, Thomas Levet 71-73, Sergio Garcia 73-71, Kenny Perry 74-70, Marco Ruiz 73-71

145—Vijay Singh 75-70, Scott McCarron 71-74, Mathias Gronberg 71-74, Tiger Woods 73-72, Chad Campbell 74-71

146—Fredrik Jacobson 70-76, Craig Parry 73-73, Phil Mickelson 74-72, Nick Price 74-72, Ernie Els 78-68, Andrew Oldcorn 72-74, Peter Lonard 73-73, Gary Evans 71-75, Fred Couples 71-75, Philip Price 74-72, Stuart Appleby 75-71, Mark Foster 73-73

147—Gary Murphy 73-74, Chris Smith 74-73, Jose Coceres 77-70, Marcus Brier 76-71, Charles Howell 71-76, Jesper Parnevik 72-75, Mark Roe 77-70. AFP

The lesson in San Diego

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

THE DEBACLE we suffered in the World Golf Juniors was not unexpected. Many lessons of the past tell us that even the best of the best cannot guarantee victory.

Tiger Woods, the world No. 1, losing all his four majors in succession graphically illustrates that truism.

And how about China losing the Asian Games basketball crown to South Korea only a while back?

Our golfers' setback in San Diego hurt because we were expecting victory long before we went to battle.

Once again, what we had from the very start was a wrong frame of mind.

How many times have we been warned: Don't count the chicks before the eggs are even hatched.

It happens all the time. We are simply enamored with the thought of being too confident when we embark on something.

Not bad to think of victory all the time. In fact, that should be the right attitude all the time.

But to flaunt it, to say we are sure of winning, is as dangerous as to say Danding Cojuangco cannot win in the presidential elections next year. For, the recent court setback suffered by Danding might yet gun up Danding's bid. This is an underdog-loving country, remember? But that's another story.

Back to San Diego.

Wolen Superal was supposed to win there.

Just last summer, Wolen swept tournaments with winning margins as unbelievable as seeing man setting foot on Jupiter or Mars.

Wolen's form was so devastating that if he scored a 10-stroke victory in one tournament, he'd be described as not in his element. Slump. He won by 20-shot margins with clockwork efficiency that we soon heard punks and pundits dubbing Wolen "The Alien."

He was simply a cut above the rest.

Thus, when the trip to San Diego was in the works, everybody was spreading the word around that Wolen would win the 9-10 title easily.

Alas, "The Alien" became "The Taken."

So taken by surprise Wolen must have been by the aura of a first plane ride, the splendor of America, that the culture shock told on him in the end.

Suddenly, he was missing putts that used to fall like peanuts into a manhole.

When he needed that winning touch, what he got instead was a crashing thud.

His fourth-place finish, our jungolf officials insisted, was unacceptable. Blinded by emotion, they totally ignored the fact that Wolen was unbeaten in Manila simply because he sorely lacked quality competition. It was his first tournament abroad; surely, rookie jitters contributed to his downfall.

The unpredictability of things makes this world so interesting. Yet, many of us allow ourselves to be consumed by inanities, leading us to dwell on illusions, if not wishful thinking. Wittingly or unwittingly, we fall prey to absolutism, that dogma that is bereft of truism.

You talk in absolute terms, you lose track of the truth.

In golf, as in life, nothing is absolute.

Someone even said our delegation of 26 junior golfers this year was the strongest batch ever since Maling Montecillo brought the first jungolfers to San Diego in 1975.

On paper, maybe.

In reality, no.

The strongest would be the one that had Ramon Brobio and Carito Villaroman. And that's because both swept titles in different divisions yearly that their names have now become bywords in San Diego.

While Brobio's exploits included victories over the likes of Phil Mickelson, Carito's feats (best 4-day record, under-par in all four rounds) in the 15-17 division have been enshrined as Hall of Fame stuff in world junior play. Carito's records are in a tablet planted near the clubhouse of Torrey Pines, the scene of his glory.

To Wolen Superal and the rest of the team, including ousted world champion Dottie Ardina, don't lose hope, though. There is always the next time.

In the meantime, look for other tournaments other than those on local soil. To athletes dreaming of world-class excellence, there is no substitute for foreign exposure.

Travel broadens our horizons, remember?

***

FASTBREAK. First Gentleman Mike Arroyo deserves commendation. He just gave chess a big boost by pledging to help Ronnie Dableo's campaign in Europe.

I also raise a glass to lawyer Sammy Estimo, who built the bridge linking chess to Mr. Arroyo. Since the time Sammy helped chart the destiny of the National Chess Federation of the Philippines in the company of Mat Defensor, Eugene Torre and chess legend Florencio Campomanes, chess has slowly but surely inched closer to recapturing its once lofty standing in the nation's sports consciousness.

Tip your hats, fellas.

Efren "Bata" REYES
Bebeng GALLEGO
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9
Marlon MANALO
Warren KIAMCO
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JEMAH SPORTS

LOVE lines up his putt on the 9th green. AFP

Tiger remains on the prowl

SANDWICH, England—Tiger Woods produced a workmanlike performance—marred chiefly by an extraordinary lapse with his putter—to stay in contention for the British Open on Friday.

He fired a one-over 72 to reach the halfway stage at three-over par overall (145), four behind compatriot Davis Love III who was the only man to beat par after 36 holes in difficult crosswinds and on treacherously quick greens and parched, undulating fairways.

The world number one, rebuilding his challenge after losing his ball from his first shot of the tournament, would have been disappointed not to be even closer after a round which did not reach his inspired best but still gave his hundreds of fans at Royal St. George's plenty to cheer.

He marched from two-over to one-under par in seven holes of his second round with arrow-straight driving and approach play, coupled with a perfect touch on the greens, reaping three early birdies.

A missed green at the ninth cost him his first shot of the day but Woods was still even par for the tournament at the turn and only a stroke behind Love when a four-putt on the 12th green stopped his progress to the top of the leader board in its tracks.

WOODS watches the path of the ball as he plays a shot on the second day of the British Open. REUTERS

There was little indication of trouble ahead as Woods, seeking his second British Open following his St. Andrews win three years ago and his ninth major, found the 381-yard 12th hole's green in two.

His first attempt for a birdie from around 20 feet rolled three feet short, a distance which the 27-year-old tournament favorite usually negotiates without too many problems but his confident stroke pushed the ball narrowly wide.

It finished equally far away and again Woods failed to find his mark to the amazement of the packed Open gallery following him in the late afternoon sun.

A tap-in for a double bogey six, coupled with the dropped shot at the ninth, undid all the good work of his earlier birdies at the second, fourth and seven holes.

Woods negotiated the remaining holes without further mishap until the 17th when a near-perfect approach spun back to the bottom of the green and he took three more to hole out for a bogey five.

Further damage looked possible at the 460-yard last when his approach ran through the green but this time Woods made no mistake in holing out from three feet for a par four.

Reuters

Furyk, other big guns out

SANDWICH, England—Hey, Jim Furyk, you've won your first major championship. Where are you going this weekend?

Home.

The tiny, winding roads leading out of Sandwich were a little more crowded Friday, with big-name players such as Furyk, David Duval, Bernhard Langer, Justin Leonard and Jose Maria Olazabal heading away from the course.

They'll get no more swings at Royal St. George's. For them, the British Open is done after just 36 holes.

Furyk was probably the biggest surprise to miss the cut, melting down just five weeks after he held up the trophy as US Open champion. He won't even get a glimpse of the claret jug, doomed by a 7-over-par 78 that left him two strokes shy of the line that separated haves from have-nots.

"I got on a train wreck," Furyk said, "and I couldn't get off."

AP

Scouts eye RP jungolfers; Agojo gets offer

By Jong Arcano

SAN DIEGO, California—With scouts from various universities in the United States still keeping an eye on Filipino talents, it's high time for the Philippines to implement a more serious and comprehensive junior golf development program to enhance the chances of getting them here.

This is the contention of Gerry Handog, president of the Junior Golf Foundation of the Philippines, who led the RP contingent's impressive campaign in the just-concluded Callaway Junior World golf championships.

After being told that a North Arizona University scout has approached Jayvie Agojo for a possible scholarship, Handog wasted no time in revealing plans to revitalize the present set-up and help jungolfers get the same opportunity.

Agojo's scholarship offer came as a big bonus to a contingent already in a victorious mood after 15 of the 26 kids sent here made it all the way to the final round and six of them landed in the top six in various age divisions.

"We now have the momentum to really go all-out for the development of jungolf in our country. These are encouraging signs. We have the core of jungolfers we could develop to be very competitive," said Handog.

Handog actually arranged the exposure trips here of teaching pros Jun Cedo and Ric Borreta to join Bong Lopez in observing present trends in handling junior talents.

They are expected to form the core of a management group that will guide a national training pool being planned for a one-year test period. There shall be an average of 10 players for each of the five age groups to undergo a long-term preparation.

What is seen as a very crucial factor in this program is the participation of Art Guevarra, a fast-rising PGA licensed Filipino teaching pro based in

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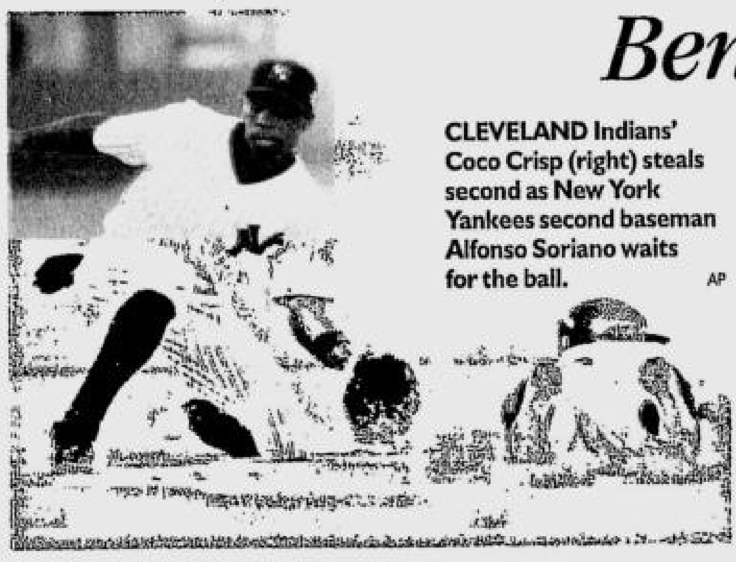
Benitez shines, preserves Clemens' win



CLEVELAND Indians' Coco Crisp (right) steals second as New York Yankees second baseman Alfonso Soriano waits for the ball. AP

NEW YORK—Armando Benitez made a successful debut in pinstripes.

The former Mets closer pitched two innings and held a four-run lead to help preserve Roger Clemens' 302nd win as the New York Yankees beat the Cleveland Indians 10-4 Friday night.

Jason Giambi homered twice, Ruben Sierra also connected and Alfonso Soriano hit a two-run double for New York, which rallied against Cleveland for the second straight night and opened a four-game lead over second-place Boston in the AL East.

Benitez, maligned by Mets fans for blowing seven of 28 save chances this year, was obtained by the Yankees on Wednesday in a trade for three prospects.

Clemens (9-6) failed to hold a 3-0 lead, allowing three runs in the fourth and one in the fifth. But the Yankees rallied for five runs off Brian Anderson (7-7) and Jason Boyd in the sixth, an inning interrupted by a 61-minute rain delay.

In Boston, Kelvim Escobar gave Toronto its second straight strong pitching performance against the best-hitting team in the majors as the Blue Jays beat Boston.

Mike Bordick homered off Tim Wakefield (6-5) and Escobar allowed five hits in seven innings to break a five-start winless streak as Toronto, 3-12 heading into the All-Star break, improved to 2-0 afterward.

Complete results

AMERICAN LEAGUE—Baltimore 6, Anaheim 5; Toronto 4, Boston 1; Tampa Bay 2, Texas 0; NY Yankees 10, Cleveland 4; Chi White Sox 7, Detroit 5; Seattle 6, Kansas City 3; Minnesota 3, Oakland 2.

NATIONAL LEAGUE—Montreal 3, Philadelphia 1; Pittsburgh 7, Milwaukee 2; Houston 5, Cincinnati 3; Atlanta 11, NY Mets 4; Florida 6, Chi Cubs 0; Arizona 6, San Diego 0; Los Angeles 8, St. Louis 5; San Francisco 7, Colorado 0. *Reuters*

TOUR DE FRANCE

Lance feeling the heat

CAP'DECOUVERTE, France—The heat came on to Lance Armstrong and he surprisingly wilted.

The individual time trial Friday in the Tour de France was expected to be a specialty for the Texan to eat up, but instead the 12th stage sucked some life out of the defending champion.

In 61-degree (142F) heat rebounding off the road, Armstrong finished second to archrival Jan Ullrich by 1 minute, 36 seconds, and though he extended his overall lead from 21 seconds to 34, he was not happy.

Not after appearing vulnerable with four intense stages in the Pyrenees ahead.

"It was very, very hot. I couldn't really cool down," Armstrong mumbled. "Perhaps it was too hot for me, I don't know. I suffered. I felt like I was pedaling backward."

Armstrong said he did not take in enough fluids before the race—a seemingly amateur error for a four-time Tour champion.

"It's the thirstiest I've ever been in a time trial, and I was right from the beginning for some odd reason," he said.

Armstrong said he ran out of water ahead of the final climb in the 47-kilometer (29-mile) clock race.

France has been melting in a heatwave since the French Open tennis began in late May.

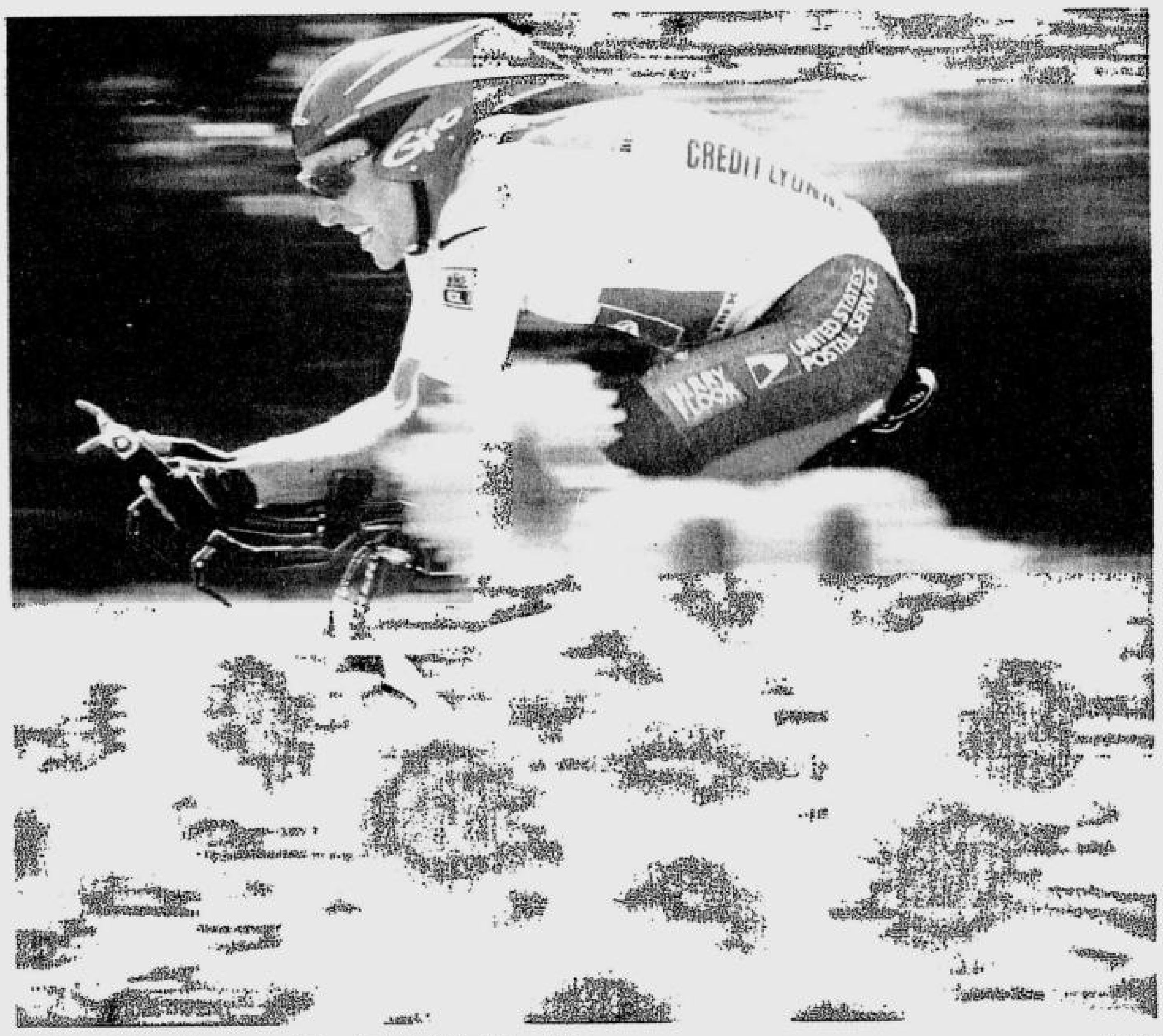
Armstrong intended to use the time trial from Gaillac to Cap'Decouverte to put enough distance between him and his rivals so he'd have a large cushion before the first of the Pyrenees stages Saturday.

The opposite happened.

Ullrich, the Tour winner in 1997 and runner-up twice to Armstrong, narrowed his time behind the leader from 2 minutes, 10 seconds to just 34 seconds, and into second overall.

"From the start I never thought I could win this time trial," Ullrich said. "I got my old rhythm back.

"I have never beaten Armstrong in a time trial in the Tour before, and I did it now, in my comeback year." *AP*



ARMSTRONG pedals to second place in the individual time-trial. REUTERS

RP Int'l Golf Show on tap

EXHIBITORS coming from various sectors of the golf industry are out to make their strong presence felt in the 2003 Philippine International Golf Show on Sept. 26-28 at the SM Megatrade Hall in Mandaluyong City.

There will be as many booths showcasing the latest in equipment and apparel as well as turf maintenance and hardware in the three-day event organized annually by the Golf Distributors Association of the Philippines (GDAP), in coordination with exhibit manager Fairs&More.

Gerald Raymundo, president of GDAP, said that preparations for the Golf Show which is one of the biggest in Asia are already in full swing and that booth reservations are steadily growing with a good two months before opening day.

The equipment distributors are to be joined by the leading companies in the turf sector, including Formost, IGRI Clark Industries, Kart Plaza Manufacturing, Acro Golf and Gainers Marketing.

The Show, which regularly draws thousands of visitors to the exhibit site, will be featuring product launches and promotions especially from the top equipment brands like Mizuno, Callaway, Nike, Taylor Made adidas, Wilson, Titleist, etc.

For inquiries, interested parties may call the GDAP (tel. no. 374-5037/fax 412-1696) or Fairs and More (tel. no. 759-6680/fax 759-6690).

Michael sets pace

SILVERSTONE, England—Michael Schumacher set the pace in pre-qualifying at the British Grand Prix Friday, staying ahead of his younger brother Ralf who has won the two previous races.

On a cool and cloudy day, Michael Schumacher clocked 1 minute 19.474 seconds in his Ferrari on the 5.141-kilometer Silverstone circuit. As the top scorer for the season he started first.

Second and third went to the BMW-Williams cars that have dominated Formula One racing over the six weeks. *AP*

Figg-Currier, Han share top spot at Big Apple Classic

NEW ROCHELLE, New York—Cindy Figg-Currier took last year off from the LPGA Tour to give birth to her second child.

Now, she's back, and in her first week away from the kids this year, was tied for the lead halfway through the Big Apple Classic.

"Maybe that's it. There's no cooking, no laundry, no getting up in the middle of the night to give a bottle," she said Friday, after a 65 left her tied with Hee-Won Han at 8-under 134. "I wish they were here, though."

If 8-year-old Kaitland and 1-year-old Mary had made the trip from Texas, they would have seen their mother come up with a bogey-free round that featured four birdies on her front nine, including a tap-in on the par-5 18th after a 35-foot putt for eagle hung on the lip.

"That was really nice," Figg-Currier said of the round. "But I feel like I left some out there."

Han also didn't have a bogey as she matched the best round of her career to share the lead in the tournament she lost last year in a one-hole playoff.

Beth Daniel, who won last week's Canadian Women's Open, had a second 68 at Wykagyl Country Club and was at 6 under. That lefty her one shot in front of Meg Mallon (67), first-round leader Mi-Hyun Kim (71), Joanne Mills (67) and Vicki Goetze-Ackerman (69).

Suzy Whaley, the teaching pro from Connecticut who will play in the PGA Tour's Greater Hartford Open next week, had a 75 and was 2 over at 144, two shots better than the cut.

Filipina Jennifer Rosales fired a 71 and was tied at 140 with Silvia Cavalleri of Italy and American Stephanie Louden. *AP*

Trips await fans of F1

MILD Seven, one of the most recognized luxury brands in the world, will give away eight all-expenses-paid trips to the Sepang Formula One race circuit in Malaysia, in connection with its "F1 Slipstream" raffle promo.

"Mild Seven has always strongly positioned itself as a dedicated corporate supporter of F1 racing. Over the past two years, we have accelerated our efforts to entertain as well as educate the market about car racing through intensive promotions carrying a Formula One theme," said Edward Cruz, brand manager of the Marketing Division of JT International (Philippines), Inc. the makers, importers and distributors of Mild Seven.

Taking seriously its role as the premier educators for F1 in the Philippines, Mild Seven has already brought to the country a well-known F1 driver (Jenson Button) and an F1 race car (R202) for in the last two years.

ROSALES reacts to a missed birdie putt on the 17th hole during second round of the Sybase Big Apple Classic in New Rochelle, New York on Friday. REUTERS

Laguna footrace slated

EVERYTHING is set for the First Laguna Marathon set to start and finish at the Pacita Complex in San Pedro, Laguna on Aug. 24 at 4:30 a.m.

The event, which has a total pot of P112,000, is sponsored by The International Marketing and Events Specialist, Swiss Finance and Investment Corp., Balfour Beatty Cleveland JV, Raffy Campos, Laguna Board Member Edwin Olivares, Bureau of Immigration and Deportation executive director Roy Almoro and San Pedro Vice Mayor Celso Ambayec.

It is organized by the San Pedro Team Unified Sports Association (SPTUSA) officials composed of Jing Anchoriz (president), Arman delos Santos (vice president), Jaime Lopez (secretary), three-time national triathlon champion Abet Alon-Alon (treasurer and race director), Ompong Rances (pro) and Louie Mangahis (chair).

Registration is ongoing at the #98 Mabini St., Bgy. Poblacion, San Pedro, Laguna, with tel. no. 868-7588, c/o Anchoriz, and at the Bike Room (near Cartimar), 2190 Leveriza St., Pasay City, Metro Manila, with tel. no. 551-6228.

For more information, please contact 778-9518 (Rances), 0920-2862195 (Alon-Alon), 0920-8506650, 0916-4452770, 0917-8473540 and 0916-342889.

P.6M staked in Pasay meet

A GUARANTEED prize of P600,000 and two brand new owner-type jeeps are at stake in Pasay City Cockpit's special 4-cock derby on July 30 and Aug. 1.

More than than 100 entries are seeing action in the meet to be hosted by Kags Paliza and Aba Badiola, also the organizers of the 2-cock *ulutan* (250 entries) recently at La Loma Cockpit.

"All the prizes here are guaranteed. In fact, the two owner-type jeeps are now on display at the cockpit parking area," said pit managers Oscar Gonzales, Eric de la Rosa and Butchoy Olano.

Submission of weights is on July 29 only, from 2 to 9 p.m. for the elimination round. Straights four cocks will also be accepted on Aug. 1. The Champion handler and gaffer gets P70,000 and P30,000, respectively. The derby will start at 2 p.m.

For inquiries, please conatct 816-6750, 843-1746 and 843-1890.

Scouts eye RP jungolfers . . .

From page A23

Industry Hills, who committed to sharing his training formula.

Several of Guevarra's students are already playing in top colleges in the US.

Of course, Handog said Jungolf will knock on the doors of top corporations and benefactors for the needed funding.

If not for the support of Philippine Airlines, which gave tickets to 10 jungolfers who excelled in the Samsung summer tour and other sponsors like the Philippine Sports Commission, Airlift Asia, Samsung, Global Lightings and MCCI, the San Diego trip couldn't have been as productive.

Majority of the contingent drove from San Diego to Palm Springs for their next mission, the Desert Junior Classic starting Tuesday.

Meanwhile, in the final round of play in Class A at Torrey Pines Friday, Justin Tambunting bungled a good start to shoot an 81 for 309 while Agojo, unable to check on her putting woes until the last day, scored an 83 –324.

West Bound guns for sweep today

Security Master looms as biggest threat in Horseman's Cup

CAN West Bound follow the footsteps of his grand sire?

That will be answered today when the chestnut colt shoots for a sweep in the 2003 Philippine Triple Crown series at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite.

Only the Horseman's Cup remains as the missing link in West Bound's bid to join the elite list of champions and emulate the feat of Fair and Square, the sire of his dam Fair Maiden.

"*Eto na. Sana ma*-sweep *na* (This is it. I hope we can pull off a sweep)," said star jockey Jeffril Zarate, who also guided West Bound to victory in the Ongpin Cup (second leg).

Looming as the biggest obstacle to West Bound (by Hezagonewest) in the 2,000-meter race dubbed as the Horseman's Cup is Security Master, who will rely on Fernando Raquel Jr. this time.

Also out to steal the show and the P1-million winner's prize are Speed Machine, High Octane, Secret Lover, Kokopelli, Success Story and Iverson.

After Fair and Square pulled off the first sweep in 1981, Skywalker mirrored it in 1983. Time Master prevailed in 1987 before Magic Showtime emerged victorious in 1988.

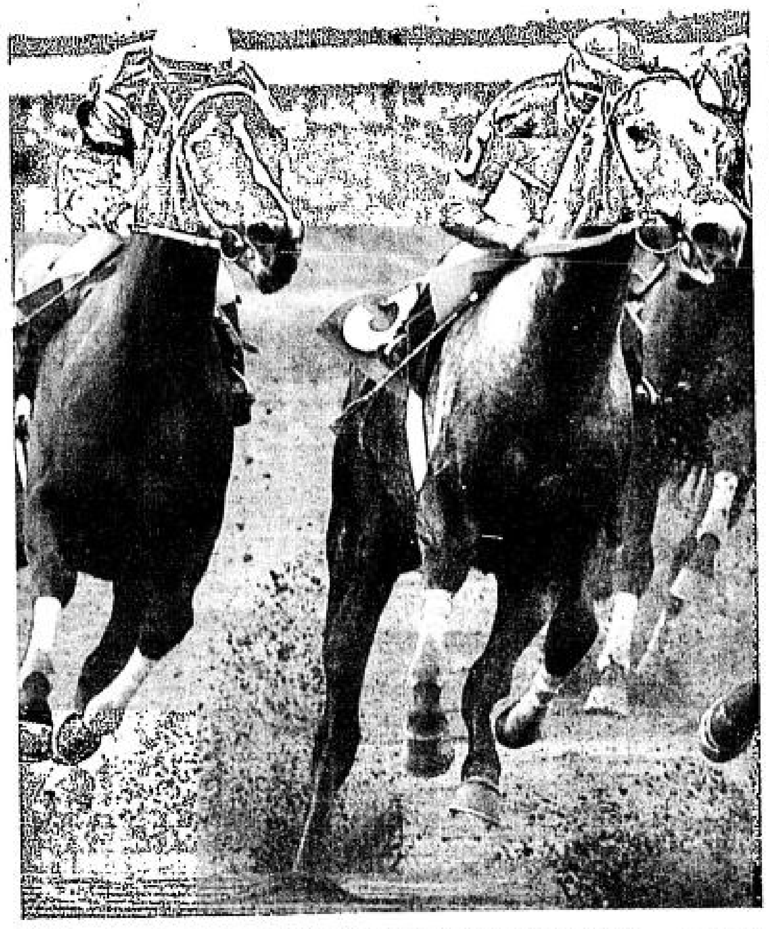
Sun Dancer then dominated the field in 1989 before Strong Material and Real Top succeeded in 1996 and 1997, respectively. Silver Story last completed the sweep in 2001.

Meanwhile, the Manila Jockey Club Inc. management issued an apology yesterday regarding the cancellation of races last Wednesday and Thursday nights.

"We would like to apologize for any inconvenience brought about by the cancellation of our races last Wednesday and Thursday. We'd like to assure everyone that MJCI management will do everything within its means to prevent similar incidents from happening again in the future," said MJCI president and chief executive Alfonso Reyno Jr.

As an offshoot of the incident, the MJCI has rescheduled the start of its weekend racing program earlier at 10 a.m. since yesterday with two races added to the card to complete a 15-race line up.

Providing attraction to MJCI's return to its day racing schedule is the running of three top money races headlined by the Horseman's Cup together with the companion Philracom Hopeful Stakes and the Philippine-American Friendship Race, co-presented by the Philippine Racing Commission, PCSO and Pagcor. *Edwin Villanueva*



TOP contenders Security Master (left) and Success Story. PDI PHOTO

Power fails SLLP

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

RACING fans called it "Two Nights That Shamed San Lazaro Leisure Park."

We're speaking, of course, about the unhappy incident which plagued the Carmona, Cavite, racing facility last Wednesday and Thursday nights.

SLLP officials blamed power system failure as the reason for the races' cancellation at the so-called "world class" venue.

Although races returned Friday night and yesterday on an earlier schedule, the *bayang karerista* is still wondering why a world class club like the SLLP could fall victim to such circumstance.

Anyway, *kareristas* are hoping that it would not happen again and that normalcy be restored at the SLLP.

***

TEXT messages whirled like wildfire starting Wednesday night moments after it was announced that races are going to be called off.

Among those my Silip Boy received are the following:

—"SLLP *di na* world class *kundi* worst class, *ipasa*."

—"*Dapat sa* SLLP *itawag*: San Lousy-ro *ala*-Leisure *Palpak*."

—"SLLP *dapat yan* San Lazaro Losing Park."

—"*Kawawa naman pumunta sa* SLLP, *dapat refund din yung bayad sa* toll."

***

SO it will be on Jeffril Zarate's hands that West Bound would rely on when he guns for a Triple Crown sweep this afternoon.

Zarate, my Silip Boy said, got the ride in lieu of Jonathan Hernandez because the C&H Ent. people want Zarate stay to atop West Bound up to the Presidential Gold Cup which is their main goal after the TC.

West Bound's handlers reportedly got wind of Hernandez's choice of Golden Ballet for the PGC so they stuck with Zarate who expertly guided the Hezagonewest-Fair Maiden colt to an impressive victory in the Ongpin Cup.

***

COULD the jockey switch from Val Dilema to Dhunoy Raquel do wonders for Security Master in the Horseman's Cup today?

My Silip Boy said Security Master has regained his razor sharp form and should be the biggest threat to West Bound, who reportedly had a "harrowing workout" yesterday morning at the SLLP.

If you remember, Raquel is nothing new with Security Master because he was the pilot when Myther Buñag's galloper won its sweepstakes debut last year.

Also of interest is the choice of the Hermie Esguerra Stable to tap Dilema's services in favor of Bornok Borbe on High Octane, and the Niles Stable's *pahiyang* to replace Raquel with Hernandez on Success Story.

Don't miss the Horseman's Cup!

RACING TIPS

AT SLLP BY MR. 999

Race 1–1. Better King 2. Simply Great 3. Scene Stealer 4. Samahan

Race 2–1. Shuttle's Magic 2. Early Warning 3. Armee's Hope 4. Gallant Rose 5. Jeanne D'Arc

Race 3–1. L'Islet Sur Mer 2. Tout Est Grace 3. El Duque

Race 4–1. Fine Offer 2. Speed Charm 3. Nuts Again 4. Ahead of Time 5. Hellosilvergirl 6. Millennium Man

Race 5–1. Dandansoy 2. Mica's Magic 3. Gifted Guest 4. Master Ijhay

Race 6–1. Strong Lady 2. Classic Royale 3. Real Diamond 4. Easy Rider/Mr. Lucas 5. Classic Native

Race 7–1. Salt Lake City 2. Sham Sham 3. Arbiter 4. Well Noted 5. Rama

Race 8–1. Tatler Cover/Siete de Marso 2. Favorite Girl 3. Moneyline 4. Dona Gelay 5. Go Ichi

Race 9–1. Ganda 2. Detonator 3. Thunder Speed 4. Top Mark 5. Don Benito

Race 10–1. Dreams of Flame 2. Ginger Spice 3. Agimat/Headliner

Race 11–1. Graceful Ann/Ann's Magic 2. Elusive Quality 3. Modern Classic 4. Divine Diva 5. Irsish Star

Race 12–1. West Bound 2. Security Master 3. High Octane 4. Iverson 5. Speed Machine

Race 13–1. Captain Stone 2. Dazzling Affair 3. Pride of Cebu 4. Pampanga Queen 5. Silver Dollar

Race 14–1. Voice of Destiny/Cable Car 2. Precious Time 3. Roulette Queen 4. Like A Prince 5. Storm Princess

Race 15–1. Close Account 2. Front Page 3. Queen Ramasas 4. Maple My Love 5. Kiss Em Goodbye 6. Despedida

Russian tankers ahead

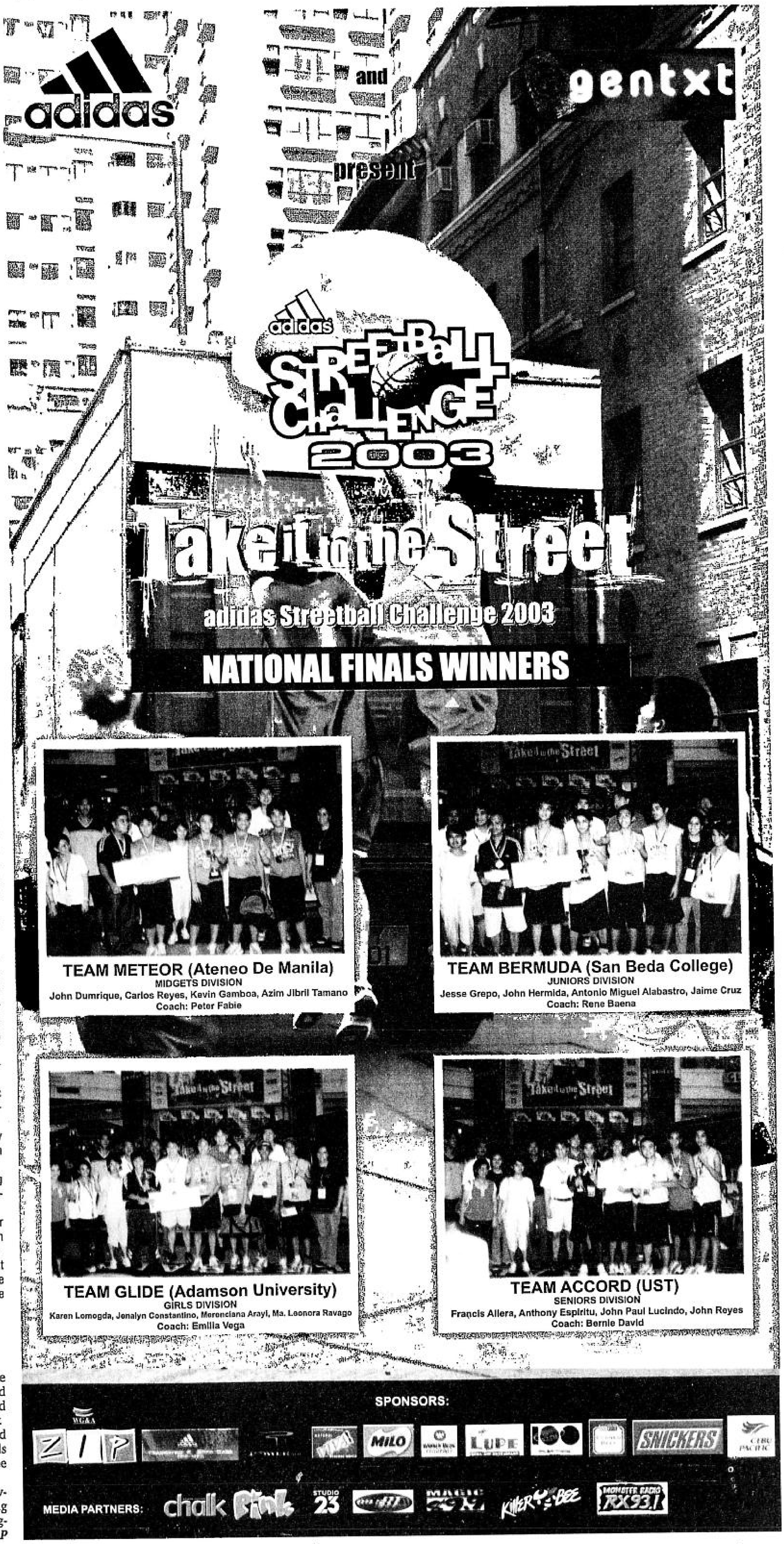
BARCELONA, Spain—Russia and China continued their duel atop the medals table on Day 6 of the World Swimming Championships.

Russia boosted its leading medal totals by winning gold on Friday in the synchronized swimming duet.

Anastasia Davydova and Anastasia Ermakova's performance earned 99.084 points. Japan's silver medal duo of Miya Tachibana and Miho Takedaduo finished with 98.084, edging Spain's bronze medalists Gemma Mengual and Paola Tirados, who received 96.667 points for the host country.

Russia leads in both gold medals (five) and overall medals (10). China comes next with three golds and nine medals overall.

China took another gold in diving Friday when Guo Jingjing won the 3-meter women's springboard. *AP*



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Coach: Rene Baena

TEAM GLIDE (Adamson University)
GIRLS DIVISION
Karen Lomogda, Jonalyn Constantino, Morenciana Arayl, Ma. Leonora Ravago
Coach: Emilia Vega

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Sunday BIZ

Business Features Editor Margie Quimpo-Espino

He would trade in his wealth just to have his mother again

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

ANTONIO Cabangon L. Chua aboard his BMW motorbike which he used in shuttling to his various business concerns that included pawnshops and grocery stores.

HIS first job as a junior accountant gave him the first step in the gilt path to fortune. But it was the odd jobs Antonio Cabangon-Chua did as a poor urchin to survive post-war Manila that forged his character and sparked what he called a "burning desire" to succeed in life.

FIRST JOB

Cabangon-Chua, 68, took on a wide range of menial jobs as varied as his multi-million business holdings today. He was a scavenger, a paperboy, ice drop and *pandesal* vendor and a bootblack ; when he got older, he became a jeepney driver and mechanic.

"I was too young to be a man and no one wanted to hire me. I was too old to be a boy and I could not go to the streets begging, which was why I had to take on these jobs," says Cabangon-Chua recalling his situation at 11 years of age when his life went into a tailspin—his father died (a war casualty) and his home and family belongings were reduced to ashes.

"No job was too hard or too dirty for me back then as long as it could help me and my mother get through the next day."

Dominga, the mother

He said this was particularly hard on his mother, Dominga, who was used to life's comforts when his father was still running a lumberyard. But the tragedy further cemented the bond between mother and son and strengthened their resolve to overcome whatever difficulties they faced—together and on their own.

"My mother taught me the importance of hard work, determination and faith in God and she did it mostly through her deeds," Cabangon-Chua says.

His mother took on odd jobs such as doing the laundry for American GIs; peddling dried fish she bought from Binangonan, Rizal; and delivering homemade bucayo or coconut cake to stores.

His mother's selfless labor rubbed off on Cabangon-Chua who has eschewed his playtime and devoted his waking hours to studying and looking for odd jobs.

But Cabangon-Chua was not content going along with the tide, he wanted to do everything quicker and better, specifically, his studies. "I was a young man in a hurry because I had this nagging fear that I might not finish schooling. I also had to compensate because there was just the two of us."

He finished his primary and elementary studies in four years and high school and college in six years as he spent his vacations attending summer school.

He took up another course in a nearby college but he gave up after year because he found it too difficult taking two degrees at the same time. He settled, instead, for a 1-year course in auto mechanics at a vocational school. He did all these while helping his mother mind their *sari-sari* store or buffing up the boots of American officers or plying the Sta. Ana-Paco-Makati route.

Junior auditor

His first, real job came in 1957 when he was hired by JS Zulueta, an auditing firm, as a junior auditor. His main task was to look at the books of the Manila Stock Exchange and this helped him learn the intricacies of business.

This job not only gave Cabangon-Chua his first paycheck (P150 a month), it also gave him his first windfall that he would use in building the cornerstone of his fortune.

His boss, Jesus Zulueta, gave all staff members an option to buy 1,000 shares of Redeco (an oil exploration firm) at one centavo each in the firm's public offering.

"I was able to afford it because my boss allowed us to pay only 25 percent of the stock purchase with the balance to be settled at a later date. It turned out that we didn't have to worry about the balance," Cabangon-Chua recalls.

Redeco shares soon posted one of the biggest gains in local bourse history with Cabangon-Chua and some of his co-employees cashing in their profits at 33 centavos per share.

Pawnshop venture

He used the Redeco bonanza as seed money for his first business venture, Filipinas Pawnshop, in 1959. "I really wanted to own a rural bank but there were just too many requirements. Anyway, pawnshops are not that different from banks," Cabangon-Chua says.

Cabangon-Chua joined the industry orga-

HE WOULD/ B2

DOMINGA Lim Cabangon was the source of inspiration for the entrepreneur who was taught the value of hardwork. He named his building in Makati, Dominga, in honor of his mother who died 40 years ago.

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40-year tradition spells Cheding's success

By Christine Godinez-Ortega
PDI Mindanao Bureau

PINOY ENTREPRENEUR

ILIGAN CITY—A pinch of love, like salt, and keeping faith with tradition make for the success of Cheding's Peanits, Iligan's "pasalubong ng bayan." The peanuts are named after its present owner, Isidra "Cheding" Tan, 64.

Isidra is one of the four daughters-in-law of Cheding's first owners, Ramon Tan and Lim Kim Tua who left Macao, China to start a candle and peanuts business in Iligan in the early 1960s.

But it was the roasted peanuts business with an initial capital of P36 that the couple concentrated on when the business proved profitable.

Isidra says she would wake up at 4:30 every morning to help the family prepare and cook the greaseless, roasted peanuts which, later in the day, were sold in small packs for five centavos (P0.05) per pack and P2.50 for 100 packs at Iligan's moviehouses, the King & Queen Century and Premier.

"I-suroy gyud namo ang mani (We had to peddle the peanuts)," Isidra says adding that at that time, unshelled peanuts cost P2 per ganta compared to today's price of P95 per ganta.

Isidra is still active in the business. She still takes charge of mixing the salt, water and peanuts and oversees the roasting using native vats over firewood in native stoves.

She may have passed on the secret mixture to her two sons but Isidra still acts as the store's quality control manager.

Inheritance

Perhaps, Isidra's hardworking ways had earned for her the "right" to be left the business by her parents-in-law, sidestepping our question on why she became the "favored one."

Eternally grateful to her inlaws, Isidra has also required her first daughter-in-law, Cathy, 30, and granddaughter, Cheding II, this year's Munting Iligan, to pay homage to the family's ancestors by traveling recently to Macao.

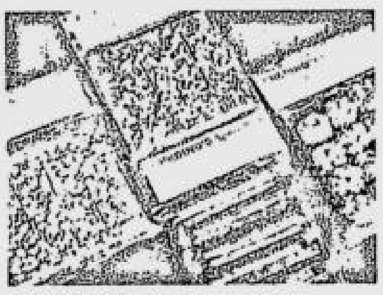
Twice a year, Isidra's family including her close friend and only surviving sister-in-law, Felisa Tan Manio, likewise perform rituals in memory of Isidra's departed inlaws.

And it seems, Isidra has followed the family tradition by relying today on Cathy, married to Isidra's son, Ramil, to take care of the management and the distribution of Cheding's Peanuts.

ISIDRA "Cheding" Tan and her daughter-in-law Cathy.

CATHY packs Cheding's classic roasted peanuts in paper bags.

Emphasizing that one has to be personally involved in running a business enterprise that translates to hard work, and, to be "good" to the workers, Isidra told us that at present, she has 20 workers from the five her in-laws started with when the family opened the business in Iligan in 1964.


OTHER Cheding's products

CHEDING's main product, the classic roasted peanuts

What Isidra didn't mention are her frugality and cautiousness as revealed by her daughter-in-law, Cathy. Compared to the conservative Isidra, the cosmopolitan Cathy, a former stewardess of Saudia Airlines, is more traveled and is used to meeting all kinds of people.

Under Cathy's management, Cheding's Peanuts has diversified, producing peanut products such as the round penato, peanut brittle, ampao with peanuts, bandi, sugar coated peanuts, salted peanuts and hot and spicy peanuts, peanut butter and three kinds of polvoron. Aside from this, the store now carries roasted casoy nuts, tableya (native chocolate), all kinds of juices and delicacies from Cebu, Bacolod and Iloilo cities.

After 36 years, loyal customers can't seem to get enough of the roasted peanuts. Cathy, however, said Isidra is happy keeping the family business "small."

Scaled-down production

Today, daily production has been scaled down to 75 kilos from the 150-kilo daily produce of the store when the National Steel Corp. and the Tinago Residence Inn were still open. These days, however, the sales of Cheding's Peanuts increase during the summer months, the city fiesta in September and in December.

Besides, a weekly delivery of 15 sacks of peanuts (at 50 kilos per sack) from Maranao suppliers who bring in peanuts from Pagadian, Bukidnon, Palawan and the Ilocos provinces assures the daily produce of roasted peanuts.

"We've always preferred the small, 'native' peanuts because of customer demand," Cathy says.

When native peanuts are not available, the Maranao suppliers bring "mestiza" peanuts from Vietnam, Indonesia and China but Cathy adds "we tell our customers that the peanuts are larger than the usual."

And aware that their customers once accused the store of not selling the "original" product, Cathy learned an expensive lesson on her attempts to "modernize" its packaging.

Cathy had convinced Isidra to "modernize" the labels and from its regular, brown paper bags inside plastic bags to just transparent, plastic bags "so customers can see what they're buying," according to Cathy. In her travels, Cathy brought samples of these to Hong Kong and Europe which sold well there.

But the regular customers back home refused to buy the products despite its more hip, plastic labels replete with bar codes, forcing the family to dump the "newly-dressed" products. The suspicious customers declared that the products are no longer "original" saying, *"sa mga anak na na* (Those are produced by the children)."

This wasn't lost on Isidra. Annoyed by the setback, Isidra told Cathy to stick to the "old ways" which meant going back to the brown paper bags. And Cathy climbed down her high horse by acknowledging that her mother-in-law was right.

Back to old ways

Testing the products by comparing the "smell and taste" of the roasted peanuts wrapped in brown paper bags and those wrapped solely in plastic bags, she found out that the roasted peanuts smelled different and were more "peanuty" in brown paper bags than when these are wrapped in plastic bags.

For sometime now, a compromise has been reached with Cheding's Peanuts packed inside two containers, a brown paper bag inside a plastic bag.

This preference for the "old and tested ways" explains Isidra's outright refusal to mass produce the roasted peanuts to fill orders from abroad.

One more important thing she has resisted doing was refusing to add preservatives to the products that would have allowed these to keep for nine months, a requirement by European buyers. At present, and without the food preservatives, Cheding's Peanuts lasts for one month and one week.

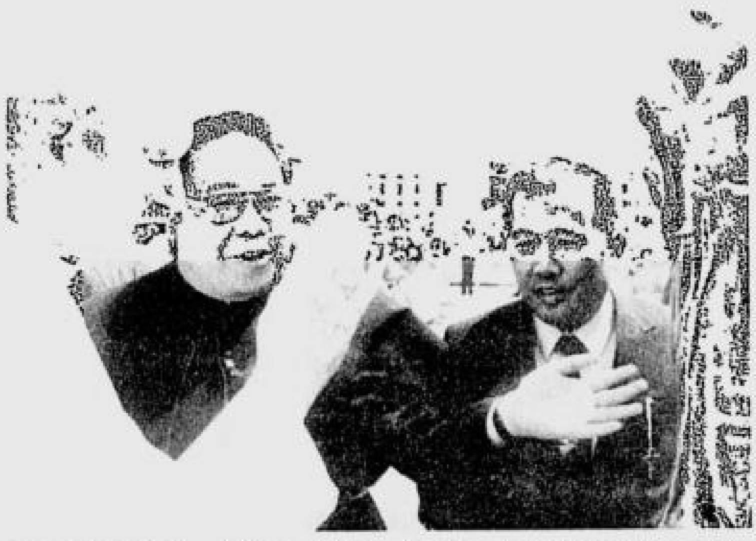
Cathy likewise explained that Isidra has also refused to go hi-tech by sticking to the mechanical and traditional means of roasting peanuts taught her by her Chinese in-laws.

At the same time, Isidra has consistently turned down proposals to open branches of Cheding's Peanuts outside of Iligan, reasoning that the family has prospered in Iligan and "there's no need to aspire for more!"

Customers have seen Cheding's Peanuts imitated down to its familiar packaging but Iliganons, especially the OFW's and those who have left for good abroad would swear that the taste and smell are "never the same" as the ones Isidra makes, associating these with the "taste" of the hometown they sorely miss.

He would . . .

From page B1


CABANGON Chua (right) with Pope John Paul II at the Vatican and Msgr. Josefino Ramirez and the image of the Brown Madonna, in 1985.

nization and quickly endeared himself to the established pawnbrokers during this era with his hard work (he was the clerk, cashier, bookkeeper, manager and janitor of Filipinas) organizational skills and street-smart ways.

It was during this time that he discovered his talent as a venture capitalist when he convinced the "old boys" from the pawnshop industry to join him in putting up in 1961 a 40-room motel (Bermuda, the seed of the Flower Group chain of motels. In 1999, Cabangon-Chua upgraded his lodging business with the construction of the 3-star Citystate hotels).

Another prominent pawnbroker, Ceferino Picache, opened the doors to Cabangon-Chua to go into the insurance business. He was invited by Picache to sit as director of the family-run Fortune Insurance. After learning the ropes of the business, Cabangon eventually took over Fortune Insurance and he expanded it to include life insurance, pension and education plans.

From pawnshop to motel to insurance, Cabangon-Chua was on a winning streak that has yet to snap.

In the last 40 years, he organized and led a group of investors to put their money into memorial parks (Eternal Gardens), cinema houses, printing and publishing, radio broadcasting, car dealership (Isuzu Gencars), security and detective agencies, restaurants, banking (Citystate Savings Bank), stock brokerage (AAA Southeast Asia Equity), and property development (ALC Realty).

" I think I'm just lucky not brilliant. I'm a firm believer that any business is a good business as long as you put your heart and mind into it," Cabangon-Chua says.

How can he focus with the broad swath of business interests in his portfolio? "By hiring good people. People can either be a company's biggest asset or biggest liability if they are not properly managed." He said his "paternal" style has been effective considering that he has yet to have any union problems with over 5,000 people in his companies.

But not even his Midas touch could ever fill the emptiness in his heart since his mother passed away. "I would gladly trade all this wealth and accolades just to have my mother by my side again," a moist-eyed Cabangon-Chua says. His mother died of cancer 40 years ago and he has spent all his Saturdays at her gravesite in that span (except when he is abroad).

This is the reason why he insists on using his mother's maiden name together with his father's name. For while diligence and persistence might have pulled him out of poverty, it was the love for his mother that has fueled his burning desire to succeed in life.

Three girls set up venture for men

By Anne Luisa Villarico

MEN are becoming a market for the spa and salon business, largely dominated by women.

"Guys may not admit it outright, but they also care a lot about their hair, skin, and the rest of the package." says Beverly Ann Lai, president of Monsieur Barbershop and Massage Services.

She cited a study published on the Internet that says men spend more than $9 billion annually on grooming products and services.

Just like in United States, men's grooming here in the Philippines has started going mainstream, she says.

Lai says men now have their own product lines, from facial wash to toners, shampoos and moisturizers.

She adds that multinational firms are seeing this as a good market opportunity.

"As for us, we want to fill the gap between the emerging men's grooming trend and the available outlets to men here in the Philippines," she explains.

With this trend comes Monsieur. But it's more than just a classic barbershop for men. It also offers full-body massages, facials, manicure and even waxing services.

"Monsieur was designed and conceptualized with the sole purpose of making men feel comfortable about grooming themselves without being conscious about what women will think of their sexuality," Lai says.

"Men like salons that are quiet and relaxing, unlike the usual salon that gets crowded with women," she adds.

Monsieur is owned by three female friends in their 20s—Beverly Ann Lai, Carol Uy, and Lily Reyes—former schoolmates from the De La Salle University.

The idea of putting up a barbershop and massage center started through online messaging.

Lai says the three of them would talk about the business that they can put up since their families are also into business. Their discussions eventually inspired them to put up Monsieur.

CAROL Uy and Beverly Lai. Photo above shows the interior of the exclusive barber shop.

RUDY ESPERAS

The three pooled about P2 million with financial assistance from their parents to invest in the business.

Lai is in charge of the marketing; Uy, operations; and Lily, finance.

"I spend an average of four to five hours a day here on weekdays," Lai said. Uy, a full-time employee of an IT firm in Makati, CBD says she goes to the salon after work while Reyes takes care of the day to day needs.

Lai says being friends made their workload distribution easier and they played on each other's strengths.

She says Carol is very keen on details, Lily is good with paper work and finance matters. *"Walang bilangan ng trabaho."*

"We call each other up even at 1 a.m. to discuss new ideas and improvements," she says.

The shop has hired seasoned barbers, some of them are from the Coronado Barbershop in Greenbelt which recently closed to give way to a Greenbelt condominium.

Lai says they have also asked their male friends for their opinions on the choice of color, ambience and style of the salon to give it a more distinctive manly appeal. Customers will catch a whiff of the "manly" scent when they enter the salon.

The facilities include a massage room with 10 beds and two private rooms; men's shower room, two toilets including 12 locker rooms with towels and slippers.

Uy says that since they really wanted a high-end barbershop and invested in the best barbers' chairs.

"The chairs are expensive. Each one of the chairs costs P50,000 to P60,000 each," she says.

Monsieur is along Aguirre Street in Legaspi Village, Makati City, a stone's throw from the Greenbelt mall.

"We chose this location since the area is surrounded by condotels and hotels, and most people in Makati [Business District] walk," Lai says.

The business opened only in February this year.

Monsieur's regular patrons are men working in the Makati Business District.

Cost of its services range from P280 to P1,000.

The salon can get really crowded during weekends, Uy says which is why they prefer that the clients set an appointment first, especially if they want to avail a massage to avoid putting them on the waiting list.

"Our services are high-end and yet very affordable," Lai said.

Monsieur also offers shoe shining service for P40 to maximize the time men spend while they are inside the salon.

Lai says they want to expand the taste of men for grooming services.

"All the details that men would appreciate, we try to give it [to them]," Lai said.

Among the most sought after services for their male customers are manicure, pedicure, ear cleaning and facial cleaning, Lai said.

For their female customers, it's aromatherapy hair spa, facial cleaning, and spa pedicure. They also have female hairstylists to cater to their female customers.

"Usually women try the services first, then they introduce it to men," Lai says.

Lai says they plan for Monsieur to emerge as a full-service spa. The salon doesn't have a steam room yet. They also plan to have more branches within the next two years.

Their clientele has been increasing. Lai says some of their regular patrons are politicians like DILG Sec. Joey Lina and other government and military officials.

'Un-copying' book industry

A "SMALL" annual percentage increase in tuition fees at private colleges and universities compounds into a hefty sum at the end of four years.

Over and above the miscellaneous fees, transportation fare or dormitory rent, plus food and sundry expenses, more worries arise when students receive their book list.

This list prescribes textbooks on subjects like the sciences, mathematics, medicine, engineering, business, psychology and IT. And more often than not, these textbooks are imported.

"Unfortunately, a lot of people cannot afford to buy these books. Students often resort to photocopying entire textbooks, or just the chapters they need to read for class," relates Jenny Javier, marketing executive for McGraw-Hill Education and president of the Publishers' Representatives Organization of the Philippines (PROP).

No harm done?

In some cases, students cannot help it—the textbooks assigned to them in class are not distributed locally. Sometimes they reason the books are expensive so they simply photocopy them not realizing that they are treading on legal territory.

"On the surface, it seems there's no harm done—just one student photocopying a book. But what happens when an entire class does it? And this goes on in more than one school. The publishing industry suffers, but it's the writers who lose because they don't get royalties if people photocopy their books," explains Rolando de Vera, sales manager of John Wiley & Sons (Asia) Pte. Ltd. and PROP chairman.

Javier said the unauthorized mass reproduction of books is the biggest problem facing the publishing industry. "There is a lack of public understanding of intellectual property rights. The simple act of photocopying a textbook is copyright infringement."

Copyright infringement is a serious issue in the country. The government has formed a regulatory board to take action against unauthorized mass reproduction and distribution of music and video CDs and DVDs. But in the case of unauthorized reproduction of books, Javier says that there is minimal police monitoring.

Addressing the situation

De Vera says that there is no solution to the problem as yet, though publishers are taking steps to address the situation.

"Local divisions of foreign publishers have come out with inexpensive editions. The same content is printed on newsprint pages, so the book is cheaper. People are encouraged to buy this—it's less expensive than the original edition, but still of a good quality. I mean, a person may pay less for photocopying a book, but he still has to have it bound or else he'd be carrying hundreds of loose sheets of paper," states De Vera.

From Aug. 30 to Sept. 7, PROP members McGraw-Hill Education, John Wiley & Sons, Felta Multimedia Inc., Thomson Learning, and Pearson Education Asia Pte. Ltd. are stepping out to join the 24th Manila International Book Fair, a gathering of the major players in the book publishing industry.

Each publisher will present an impressive line-up of textbooks, manuals and other educational materials to the public and, more importantly, to college students, professors, and librarians. It will be held at the Megatrade Hall, at Building B of SM Megamall.

For details, call 8960682 or 8970139.

Standard Chartered

SCB's CBA signed. Standard Chartered Bank, the country's first foreign bank, recently signed a two-year collective bargaining agreement with its employees union. The negotiation lasted only two months, considered the shortest in banking history. From left are union president Ed Divinagracia, National Union of Bank Employees president Jose Umali Jr., SCB country chief executive Simon Morris, HR head Beth Morales and counsel Ricardo Castro.

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Super Bowl of China's delivery services are available in the following areas: Quezon City (Camp Aguinaldo / Camp Crame; White Plains, Green Meadows, Cubao-Aurora Blvd., Project 4, Libis); Pasig (Valle Verde, Ortigas Center, Kapitolyo); Mandaluyong and San Juan (Mandaluyong, Wack Wack, Greenhills); Makati (Makati Business District, all Makati villages, Guadalupe, The Fort); Manila (Taft Ave. up to Zobel Roxas Ave.) and Pasay (Villamor). Delivery is from 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. for a minimum purchase of P250. A ten percent delivery charge will be added to the final bill.

Super Bowl of China has branches in Glorietta 4, Jupiter St. in Makati City and at SM Megamall. Also visit Big Buddha, another restaurant concept inspired by Super Bowl at Greenbelt 3, Makati City.

Broadband
& La Salle

LA SALLE GREENHILLS GOES FOR BROADBAND

La Salle Greenhills, one of the prestigious educational institutions in the Philippines, has recently upgraded its internet connection with Broadband Philippines Inc., a full telecommunications service provider, offering local and international data, voice and internet services. With Broadband Philippines' robust and highly reliable infrastructure, La Salle Greenhills will be assured of fast and efficient access to the World Wide Web. Shown in photo are (from left) Vanessa Casimiro, head, ISP/Data Center - Broadband; May Villa, vice president for corporate sales and customer service - Broadband; Benedict Avila, director for information technology, Technology Management Center - La Salle Greenhills and Joey Taniajura, business solutions manager - Broadband.

Citystate declares two years cash dividends

Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas announced the approval of the request of the board of directors of Citystate Savings Bank to declare cash dividends of P330,000 and P660,000 to stockholders of record as of Dec. 31, 2000 and Dec. 31, 2001 respectively. The bank's net income rose by 404 from 2000 to 2001 and 167 percent from 2001 to 2002

The bank's Executive Vice President, Rey D. Delfin disclosed, "The bank is committed to maximizing shareholder value, and this latest dividend increase demonstrates our continuing commitment to provide shareholders with tangible returns for investing in Citystate Bank"

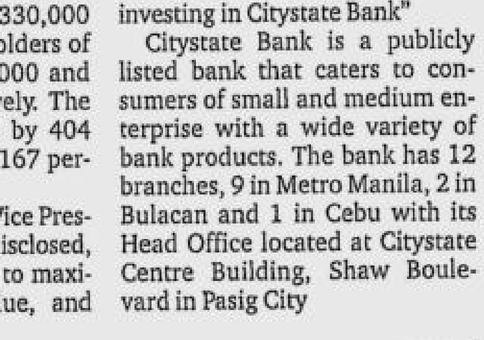
Citystate Bank is a publicly listed bank that caters to consumers of small and medium enterprise with a wide variety of bank products. The bank has 12 branches, 9 in Metro Manila, 2 in Bulacan and 1 in Cebu with its Head Office located at Citystate Centre Building, Shaw Boulevard in Pasig City

LACTACYD DONATES TO WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL

Sanofi-Synthelabo Phils. recently partnered with the Associated Broadcasting Corp. (ABC-5) in distributing Lacatcyd to the inmates of the Correctional Institution for Women (CIW), the country's national penitentiary for women. The activity was part of ABC-5's 'Gamutang Bayan', a social service program of 'Balitang-Balita'. Sanofi-Synthelabo, a global research-based pharmaceutical firm, supports the unified effort of the private sector and government in heightening social awareness to improve the people's quality of life. Photo shows Cheryl Ann Serrano (left) turning over the donation to Dr. Lenida Anchinges (3rd from left), medical officer of CIW. Also at the turn-over ceremony were Joy Lapuz (2nd from left), ABC-5's health reporter, and Eugenia Borgonia (right), head nurse of CIW.

ProductFILES

For the woman-on-the-go



KOTEX White Pads solves all the problem of embarrassment that a stained skirt or slacks bring with breakthrough innovations in absorbency and leakage protection. It has the new Body Curve shape that fits better so it moves with your every move. The new pads conform to the shape of the body, thus, preventing bunching and twisting and that means better absorbency and protection against leaks and stains. In addition to the quick-dry cover that keeps you fresh and dry, and Kotex's signature blue Safety Zone that traps fluid in, Kotex White also comes with new longer anti-leakage channels providing superior protection against leaks like no other pad can. Kotex White Pads are quality products of Kimberly-Clark Philippines. For questions and comments, write Kimberly-Clark consumer products division through ConsumerCare.ph@kcc.com or call 884-6402.

FIR rays helps cure illness

DOCTORS and medical specialists recently bared the use of far infrared (FIR) energy as an alternative way to keep one healthy and prevents the body from developing various illnesses because of its inability to dissolve toxins in the blood and eventually out of the body via urine and perspiration.

They said the FIR also known as "light of life" has been proven to treat premature babies in the incubator, after birth wounds, infected wounds, urinary tract infections, hemorrhoids, and chronic illnesses like arthritis, diabetes, asthma, allergy, prostrate hypertrophy, kidney, heart and skin problems, and helps lowers cholesterol levels. It may be utilize as a substitute to chemotheraphy treatment.

FIR has also been tested to slow down aging, smoothen blood circulation, relieve stress and promote regeneration of skin and blood tissue.

Recently, the most advanced scientific family doctor portable FIR which has its source of healing power from bioceramics (nature's hard clay) was introduced in the Philippines (687-3401). It is like a family doctor because the whole family can use this handy gadget at the comfort of their home anytime of the day. It's considered a family health furnishings in Korea, Japan, USA, Canada and other European and Asian countries.

Various hospitals in Metro Manila such as UERM, Quezon City Medical Center, United Doctors Medical Center, and Asian Hospital Medical Center have introduced FIR to patients.

Bits Clips

My Scene launch at Megamall

NEW "tweens" (young girls who imitate teens) dolls just arrive in the city! They are mad, cool and hip gals living in the city scene. It's the newest release from Mattel and will be distributed exclusively by Richwell Trading Corp. Richwell innovates a new twist in launching the new product in the toy industry. This time, a dance party launching with MTV Asia inside the Toy Kingdom Megamall on July 20. My Scene range of dolls let you play out being a teenager. You may check out My Scene Museum at Toy Kingdom Megamall. My Scene dolls are available in all leading department stores and toy store nationwide. For more information on My Scene, please call Richwell Marketing at 7325141 to 47.

Korean Soprano in Concert at the Park

CLASSICAL music serenades Concert at the Park viewers on Sunday, July 20 with guest soprano Dug Nam Seo from Korea. J. Greg Zuñiega is the assisting artist. Susan Fernandez hosts the program. For Sunday's concert, the program includes the following: G.F. Handel - Lascia Ch'io Pianga, Ch'io Mai Vi Possa, Piangero La Sorte Mia; Sognai (F. Schira); Vorrei Speigarri, Oh Dio! (W.A. Mozart); Ano Kaya ang Kapalaran? (F. Santiago), The Telephone (G.C. Menotti) and E Stramo from "La Traviata". Admission to Concert at the Park is free of charge. The public is cordially invited. Program starts at 6:00 p.m.

An outdoor café at the Ayala Westgrove Heights

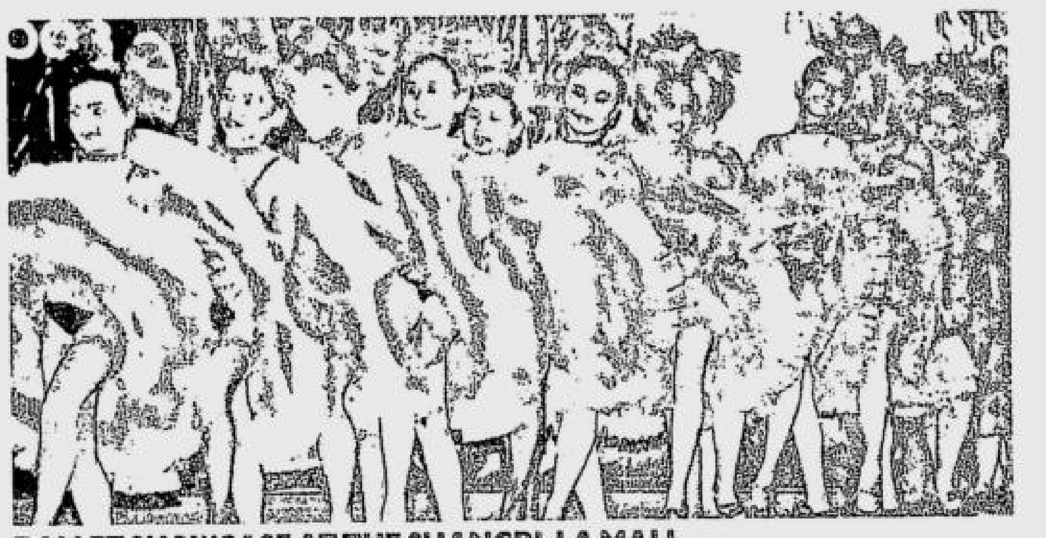
AYALA Westgrove Heights will be transforming Phase 5 into an outdoor café on July 20 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. in Silang, Cavite. The open house will showcase 17 prime lots with a scenic view of verdant foothills. What's more, reservations made starting July 20 qualify buyers to a free: Pioneer DVD Home Theatre System; or 1-year membership at Gold's Gym; or 1-year membership at The Spa. These are just more reasons for you to enjoy the cool mountain breeze with relaxing coffee at Ayala Westgrove Heights, and imagine creating lasting memories with your family. For more details on the open house, call Ianne Mallari at 841-5512 or Lala Nadal at 759-4225.

Rockwell wedding fair

ELEGANT Weddings year 3 will coincide with the mid-year mall wide sale of The Power Plant at Rockwell in Makati City on July 19 to 20 form 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. Participating in this much - awaited event at Rockwell's South Court are top notch photographers, videographers, fashion designers, invitation suppliers, giveaway makers, florists, cake makers, and many more. Hourly raffle draws and surprise gifts await online preregistrants through www.themesandmotifs.com. There will be free consultation sessions and product samples from selected exhibitors.

FAMILY FIRST OPENS SM-FAIRVIEW SALES OFFICE

Family First Inc. (FFI), the exclusive distributor of Berkley International Plans Inc. (BPI), recently inaugurated its newest sales office at the 2nd level of SM Fairview. The ceremonial ribbon was cut by guest of honor and speaker, Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) chair lawyer Lilia Bautista. FFI-SM Fairview is Berkley's fifth now in Metro Manila. Other Berkley/FFI branches are in SM Megamall, The Enterprise Center, SM North Edsa and SM Southmall in Las Piñas. Photo shows SEC chair Lilia Bautista flanked by members of Berkley's executive committee during the ribbon-cutting, from left: Daniel Villanueva, EVP-chief financial officer; Adnelle Valeza, VP-chief information officer; Robb Paulsen, EVP-general manager; Luie Dy Buncio, president; and Gina dela Vega-Cruz, corporate communications director.



BALLET SHOWCASE AT THE SHANGRI-LA MALL

Shangri-La Plaza Mall and the Effie Nañas School of Ballet (ENSCB) presented 'Ballet Showcase', at the Grand Atrium of Shangri-La Plaza Mall last May 31. The event was the culminating activity of its annual summer dance workshop. Effie Nañas, being one of the country's ballet luminaries, once again astounded the viewers when 80 participants of young dancers aged 3 years old and above showed off their talents and skills in ballet. The ENSCB is one of the first ballet schools here in the Philippines that were granted with the opportunity to become the recipient of a foreign study and observation tour upon the invitation of the Australian Ballet School (ABS), one of the world's finest ballet institutions. For two years now, the group has been part of the Philippine Independence celebration in the US and Australia.

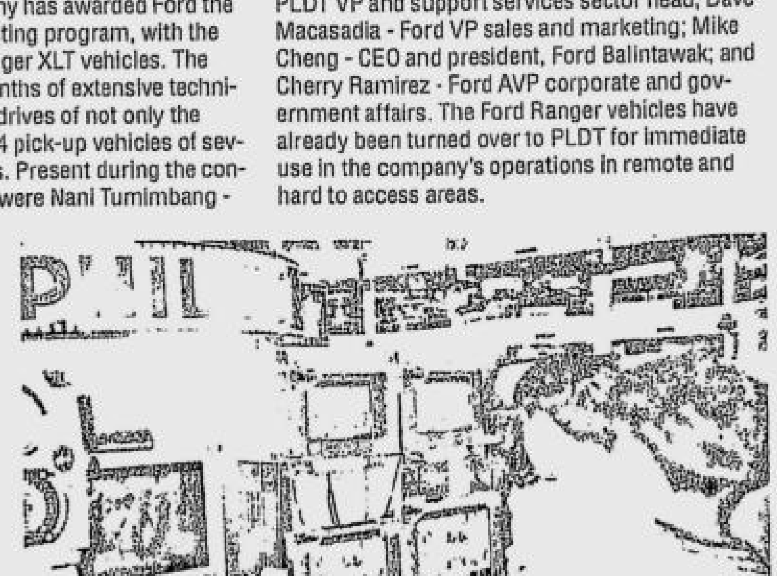
INFORMATICS SM MEGAMALL CELEBRATES ITS 9TH ANNIVERSARY

The very first Informatics Computer Institute of the Philippines recently celebrated its 9th anniversary with a new look by interior designer Tessa Prieto-Valdes. Informatics Megamall boasts of 9 years of providing international IT training for the youth, professionals and corporations. Present during the celebration were Informatics CEO and president Leo Riingen (standing, 2nd from left) and Tessa Prieto-Valdes (standing, 3rd from left).

FORD BAGS PLDT 4X4 FLEET ACCOUNT

Telecommunications giant Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company has awarded Ford the 4x4 segment of its refleeting program, with the purchase of 20 Ford Ranger XLT vehicles. The awarding came after months of extensive technical evaluations and test drives of not only the Ford Ranger but also 4x4 pick-up vehicles of several truck manufacturers. Present during the contract signing of the deal were Nani Tumimbang - PLDT fleet manager; lawyer Caroline Henson, PLDT VP and support services sector head; Dave Macasadia - Ford VP sales and marketing; Mike Cheng - CEO and president, Ford Balintawak; and Cherry Ramirez - Ford AVP corporate and government affairs. The Ford Ranger vehicles have already been turned over to PLDT for immediate use in the company's operations in remote and hard to access areas.

PHILIPS POST RECORD SALES



Philips Consumer Electronics (PCE), Europe's no. 1 consumer electronics company, posted record sales performance at the recent 30th BPI Installment appliance fair at the Glorietta Activity Center. Photo shows mall crowds checking the latest in audio-video appliances at the Philips booth during the event. Philips showcased the Pixel Plus TV, HDTV Projection monitors, and home entertainment systems.

Telco tries new approach to customer care

THREE months after unveiling its new corporate website, Smart Communications Inc. will again be launching a series of new customer care features seen to enhance the delivery of services to Smart's growing number of clients.

The company will be introducing a wireless data services area in selected business centers, allowing customers to experience the multimedia capabilities of their phones. This will give subscribers the opportunity to familiarize themselves with mobile data applications such as Internet browsing, Internet email and mobile data fax, using General Packet Radio Service. Functions for bluetooth and infrared technology will also be explained.

Smart's online computer terminals—infokiosks—will also start incorporating the new website. With its enhanced features, the website makes available a host of online services that include change of billing address, international roaming activation, bills presentment, and bills payment via credit card or Smart Money. The website-enhanced infokiosks will even allow Smart prepaid customers to inquire on their free text balance, reload history and send on-line messages.

Coupled with the existing express payment systems, these interactive devices are seen to raise the company's customer service to a higher level.

"What we're really trying here is a new approach to customer care service. We want an active business center where there is more of the fast, efficient and automated transactions," said Ricky Isla, Smart customer care head.

"We want to make our customers' visits a pleasant and highly informative experience," he added.

This vision is vigorously being pursued by the customer service people. Early this year, they started producing infomercials that are shown in the waiting area of each business center.

These short videos educate customers on basic cell phone features such as call forwarding, call conferencing, call barring and the like. The video aids also instruct customers on how to activate value-added services like international roaming, Zed, Smart Money and other multimedia messaging services.

"The videos even address billing concerns and after sales services," said Bhrein Salazar, a customer communications supervisor. "Customers don't have to line up to ask for basic things. They only need to watch, it's right there on the instructional video," he added.

Smart's fast-growing subscriber base fast-tracked the development of these video aids and other customer care enhancements. Total number of subscribers who use the Smart network has risen to 9.4 million this first quarter from end-year 2002 figure of 8.6 million.

"With such a volume, there is really a business demand for a firm and focused customer relationship management," said Isla.

To address this, additional customer contact channels have been employed. Smart now operates at least eight customer care hotlines.

Aside from wireless centers, customer service can be accessed through the corporate hotline, Gold hotline, Internet hotline, Smart Money hotline, infokiosks, website, 64KSuperSIM cuscare directory and Txt 888. These channels, available round the clock, serve the mobile phone subscribers of both Smart and Piltel.

"Contact channels and interactive devices are two of the latest tools that help us in responding to the various needs of our customers," said Isla.

Currently, Smart is developing more enhancements to its infokiosks, with the intention of making it more interactive and customer-friendly. An interactive handset navigation for the infokiosk is also in the works.

INFOKIOSKS: Smart's online computer terminals.

Variable insurance emerges as popular financial tool

VARIABLE life insurance seems to be a fast emerging financial tool for individuals seeking both insurance protection and wealth generation compared to traditional life insurance products.

Consumers seem to have reached a new phase where "they want it all"—the long-term potential of the market with the security that insurance-related products can provide. Clients' goals are no longer one or the other—upside potential or downside protection—but rather, an overall portfolio that blends the two financial needs. For the sophisticated and investment savvy market, it has become an alternative, potentially more profitable way of securing long-term savings and financial protection, given prevailing economic conditions.

In the Philippines, the Philippine AXA Life recently introduced the country's first US dollar-denominated variable insurance life plans. Given the continuing slip of the peso's value against the dollar, the preservation of the economic value of the currency is these products' main attraction.

Innovative

Considered an innovative life product when it was first introduced, variable life insurance combines two distinct features: first, the security offered by a basic life insurance plan and second, the flexibility and control associated with an investment instrument.

Branded as Honey and HoneyPot, they are envisioned to address the Filipino market's sophisticated financial needs. Both answer the market demand for security, liquidity and better yield in their dollar-linked insurance products.

Honey and HoneyPot blend protection and potential earnings. They allow clients to protect their long term interests with death benefit, while providing the potential for income growth through a selection of professionally managed funds.

Both dollar-denominated products offer living benefits, which allow clients to withdraw either on a partial or full basis to help augment financial needs. Should clients opt to boost the investment portion of their plan, they only need to inject additional premiums called Top Ups. To protect against inflation, the index-linked increase endorsement (IIE) facility allows increase in insurance protection through additional premium payments without further proof of insurability.

These attractive benefits may be further enhanced by giving clients the option to attach riders such as accident protection, term insurance, waiver of premium in case of death or total and permanent disability, and protection in case of payor's death.

Flexibility

In terms of flexibility, both Honey and HoneyPot allows clients to invest in any of the funds available, decide how much is invested in each fund, and even check on the performance of the investment fund regularly.

As premiums and benefits of Honey and HoneyPot are in US dollars, not all are in a position to avail of these unique products. Both variable life plans suit people who have the financial capability to invest in long-term instruments. They are not for people who might need their dollars in two to three years. Giving up the policy in the short term may yield less than what was paid initially.

These versatile financial tools offer a viable option to boost retirement income. With variable life, people have the facility to control the investment portion of their life insurance policy, which provide them greater value. In addition, the policy does not have any income restrictions or withdrawal penalties. As the market changes, policyholders can reallocate their investment without incurring any tax charges.

The tax-deferred nature of variable life insurance can also make it an ideal tool as emergency cash reserve—to pay for unexpected events such as health care for aging parents or young children through partial withdrawals. Another way to leverage it is to use it as a hedging instrument in an estate plan.

Its popularity has been on the rise in Asia. Even as early as eight years ago, variable life insurance products (VLIPs) are observed to be more preferred compared to traditional life plans, with Hong Kong nearly doubling the sales, accounting for 35 percent of the territory's $897-million life insurance market. Moreover, Malaysia, Singapore, Taiwan and China reported VLIPs fast catching up according to the October 2001 issue of Asia Week Magazine.

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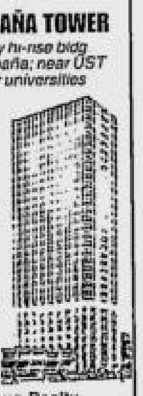

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Tagbac, Antipolo City

APO CEMENT CORPORATION
Tina-an, Naga, Cebu

Spare Parts for Sale

Various electrical & mechanical spare parts (such as relays, carbon brushes, valves, chain links, bearings, oil seals and other electrical controls) are for sale and may be viewed for inspection beginning from 21 July to 26 July 2003 from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Solid Cement Plant located at Bo. Tagbac, Barangay San Jose, Antipolo, Rizal and at the APO Cement Plant located at Tina-an, Naga, Cebu.

Request for additional information as well as scheduling of inspection during the aforesaid period may be made through the following:

Contact Persons:

Solid Cement Plant	Mr. Toto Lozada Mr. Vic Marcelino	Tel. No. (02) 650-2691 to 96 Tel. No. (02) 630-6265
APO Cement Plant	Mr. Francisco Bucao	Tel. No. (032) 273-9300 (032) 273-9337

Interested parties may submit their proposal on or before 30 July 2003 to the following:

Solid Cement Plant	Mr. Bong Acacio	Tel. No. (02) 650-4141
APO Cement Plant	Mr. Lito Valencia	Tel. No. (032) 273-9355

(PDI–July 20, 2003)

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INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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Call Lanie
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Mon-Sat.
681-4864
09166287835

BJMPMBAI
Membership Meeting
BJMP Building,
No. 144, Mindanao Avenue, Quezon City
8:30 a.m., Saturday
September 20, 2003

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SAN PEDRO LAGUNA
IS IN NEED OF
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(1) OFFICE CLERK
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(1) MED TECH
SEND APPLICATION/RESUMÉ TO
DR. FRANCISCO PURUGGANAN

[illegible] OF THE PHILIPPINES
REGIONAL TRIAL COURT OF MANILA
NATIONAL CAPITAL JUDICIAL REGION
BRANCH [illegible]

IN THE MATTER OF CORRECTION OF ENTRIES IN THE CIVIL REGISTRY [illegible]
Petitioners

-versus-
THE LOCAL CIVIL REGISTRAR [illegible]
Respondent

[illegible]

ORDER

[illegible]

Judge

(PDI – July 6, 13 & 20, 2003)

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INTERVIEWS will be held in Manila on July 31, August 1 and 8, 2003 from 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. at the Hotel Rembrandt #26 Tomas Morato Ext., Q.C., (Beside ABS-CBN Studio)

Apply in person and submit credentials to:
Sheila – Tel: (02) 939-8913; (02) 938-51-30
Adrian – Tel: (0920) 416-2265

INTERVIEWS will also be conducted in San Fernando, La Union on August 4, 2003 from 10:00 A.M to 4:00 P.M. at the Oasis Hotel.

Troy Professional Services
Staffing & Recruitment

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Housing and Urban Development Coordinating Council
HOUSING AND LAND USE REGULATORY BOARD

INVITATION TO BID

The Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board (HLURB) invites interested parties to a public bidding *of various construction materials* on **05 August 2003** (Tuesday) at exactly 9:00 a.m. Board Room, HLURB Bldg., Kalayaan Avenue corner Mayaman St., Diliman, Quezon City.

Bid forms and instructions are available and be secured during office hours at the General Services Division, Ground Floor, HLURB Bldg., Kalayaan Avenue corner Mayaman St., Diliman, Quezon City, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P200.00.

Request for clarification and other inquiries may be addressed to the said office in writing or in person before the public bidding or thru telephone number **924-3372.**

HLURB reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any required formalities in the bids received and to accept such bids which are considered most advantageous to the Government.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. FRANCISCO L. DAGÑALAN**
Commissioner and Chairman
Bids, Awards & Contract Review Committee

(PDI - July 20, 2003)

CAR FOR SALE

1. Car : NISSAN
Make : Cefiro (Infinity Look)
Model : 1997
Color : Black
Mileage : 24,594 km.
P 520,000.00

2. Car : Chevrolet
Make : Silverado 4WD
Model : 2000
Color : Black
Mileage : 17,079 km.
P 780,000.00

3. Car : Ford
Make : Explorer 4WD
Model : 2001
Color : Green
Mileage : 10,000 km.
P 1,080,000.00

Contact Person : Jeannette Cabalu
Telephone No. : 925-7104 or 925-6716
Celphone No. : 0917-8490089

A **foreign affiliated company** is in need of the following:

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- ✓ male or female, age 24-30.
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- ✓ with good communication skills.

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- ✓ female, age 25-30.
- ✓ 2-5 yrs. experience in financial statement preparation and updated with tax laws.

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- ✓ female, age 23-30.
- ✓ 2-4 yrs. experience as PABX operator
- ✓ computer literate

Send resumé via e-mail (emil@img-corp.com) or apply in person (2 p.m.-4 p.m. only) with recent resumé & 1x1 picture at:

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Chino Roces Ave., Makati

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- Graduate of BSBA/Commerce/MassCom/Engineering
- Hardworking and with excellent academic records
- With strong personality and excellent communication skills
- With at least 1 year experience in sales and/or marketing
- Driving skill with valid driver's license is an advantage

BOOKKEEPER/ACCOUNTING STAFF

- M/F, preferably single, not more than 30 years old
- Graduate of BS Accountancy or BSC-Accounting
- With good communication skills
- Keen attention to details is a must
- With at least 1 year experience in bookkeeping

Apply in person at:

CHROME DAZZLER ENTERPRISES
67 P. Tuazon Blvd. Cubao, Quezon City.
Trunklines: 721-2001 / 721-3174

Bring resumé, transcript of records, diploma and other credentials.

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PCCI Registered
3f / 2m
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12T PHP

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948-9827 / 948-9395

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2) **Terrano**
Red, 97 Model, Plate ending 9, 51,000 kms., Price: P490,000.00

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SALES AND MARKETING REPRESENTATIVES (Code: AE)

- ➢ Marketing or any business course graduate
- ➢ Preferably with knowledge and experience in advertising and publication selling
- ➢ Aggressive and can work under minimum supervision
- ➢ With excellent oral and written skills
- ➢ Computer literate

CORRESPONDENTS (Code: CR)

- ➢ Journalism or any related course graduate
- ➢ At least one year relevant experience
- ➢ Computer literate
- ➢ Flexible/trustworthy and industrious

For Manila Office:

ADVERTISING MANAGER (Code: MM)

- ➢ Marketing or any business course graduate
- ➢ At least 3 years experience in print advertising
- ➢ Must have excellent relations with ad agencies/advertisers
- ➢ Results-oriented/aggressive/creative

CIRCULATION MANAGER (Code: CM)

- ➢ With minimum 5 years experience in publication
- ➢ Must have excellent relations with newspaper dealers, outlets, food chains and hotels
- ➢ Hardworking/honest and computer literate

LAYOUT ARTIST (Code: LA)

- ➢ BS Fine Arts graduate
- ➢ Minimum 1 year experience
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- ➢ Can work with minimum supervision

Please include position code in the envelope

Send resumé & recent 2x2 photo to:
P.O. Box 2901 Makati City

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission
2nd Flr. MWSS Engineering Bldg., Katipunan Rd., Balara, Q.C.
Telefax Nos. 926-5233; 926-5234

INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION AND BID

The Government of the Philippines has received a loan from the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** and intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this loan to eligible payment under the contracts for which this Invitation for Pre-qualification and Bid is issued.

The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission as the Executing Agency and the Municipality of Trece Martires as the Implementing Agency are inviting CONTRACTORS to apply for Pre-qualification and Bid for the following packages:

Contract Package	Contract No.	Area	Location	Contract Duration	Project Description
1. Market	EPA-RAP-CF04	321.60 sq.m.	Barangay Osorio, Trece Martires, Cavite	60 Calendar Days	Construction of a one (1) Storey Community Market
2. Elementary and High School Buildings (*For local contractors* - AA Category with Large A in General Buildings *For foreign contractors* - Building Contractors with corresponding equivalent of above license/category)	EPA-RAP-CF05	1,032.04 sq.m.	Barangay Osorio, Trece Martires, Cavite	210 Calendar Days	Construction of Four (4) Units Two-Storey (8-Classroom) School Building
3. Health Center	EPA-RAP-CF06	108.25 sq.m.	Barangay Osorio, Trece Martires, Cavite	60 Calendar Days	Construction of a one (1) Storey Health Center
4. Multi-Purpose Hall	EPA-RAP-CF07	300 sq.m.	Kasiglahan Village-III, Barangay Osorio, Trece Martires, Cavite	60 Calendar Days	Construction of a one (1) Storey Multi-Purpose Hall

Interested contractors will be required to submit their accomplished pre-qualification documents and bid proposals at the same time in two (2) separate sealed envelopes. The envelope containing the bid will be kept in a sealed box, which will not be opened until after the completion of the pre-qualification evaluation, and the list of pre-qualified contractors has been finalized. Only the bids of pre-qualified contractors will be opened on the date of bid opening. The bids of disqualified contractors will be returned unopened.

Interested contractors may obtain further information and secure the pre-qualification and bid documents at the following address:

Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC)
2nd Floor, Engineering Building, MWSS Compound, Katipunan Road, Balara, Quezon City
Telephone Nos. (632) 926-5233 / 926-5234 / 926-6449

A complete set of pre-qualification and bid documents may be secured by interested contractors from the above address from **28 July 2003**, upon submission of a letter of intent and payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php2,500.00) per contract package. Site Inspection and Pre-Bid Conference is on **4 August 2003**, 10:00 a.m. at the following address:

City Engineering Office
Municipality of Trece Martires, Cavite
Telephone Nos. (046) 419-0352

The accomplished pre-qualification documents and the bid in two (2) separate sealed envelopes must be submitted to the City Engineering Office of Trece Martires, before 1200 hours on 4 September 2003. The date of bid opening will be announced later.

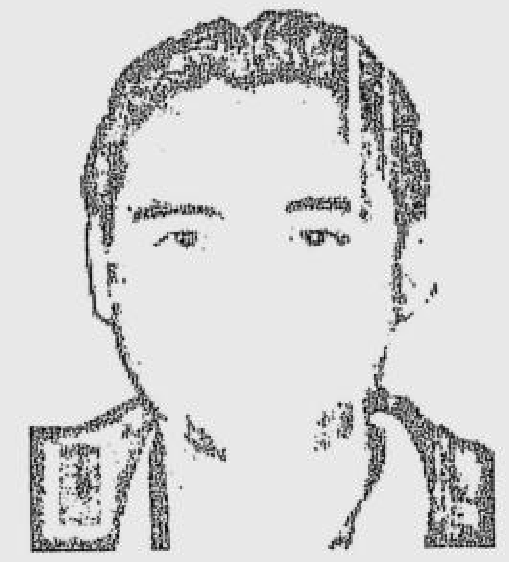
The contractors shall submit together with pre-qualification documents a notarized sworn statement stating their project workload as of date of bidding, including newly awarded but not yet started contracts with corresponding contract amount.

All particulars relative to Pre-qualification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract shall be governed by the ADB Procurement Guidelines and other pertinent laws and regulations. The BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive minor informalities, or accept such bids which will be the most advantageous to the government. The decision of BAC is final and binding.

(Sgd.) **MELENCIO L. DE SAGUN, JR.**
BAC Chairperson

(PDI - July 20 & 27, 2003)

Notice to the Public



This is to notify that **Mr. RENESAR "Sean" AWAYAN DEUNIDA** whose picture appears above is no longer connected with **SPI Content Sciences Inc.** since May 24, 2003. Any transaction entered into by **Mr. Deunida** for and in behalf of **SPI Content Sciences Inc.** shall no longer be honored by the company.

(PDI – July 20, 2003)

WINGS Activguard

A multi-national company engaged in manufacturing and marketing of household cleaning products under **WINGS** brand portfolio is looking for:

EXPERIENCED DISTRIBUTORS

for **GMA assignments.**

Key proficiency requirement are as follows:

- **Established business relationship with Secondary and distribution accounts for the following areas / territories:**
  - Quezon City
  - Marikina
  - Caloocan
  - Malabon
  - Navotas
  - Valenzuela
  - Mandaluyong
  - San Juan
  - Manila
- **Existing Manpower & Logistics network covering aforementioned outlet**
- **Financial readiness to support expanding product categories**

Successful Business Entity will look forward to above-industry rate and long-term product and business portfolio. Interested parties may look for **Shane or Orvin at (02) 837-2539 or 839-0650** or may send their correspondence at **gspi_2003@yahoo.com.**

KANEPACKAGE PHILIPPINE INC.

# 5 Ring Rd., LISP II, Brgy. Lamesa, Calamba, Laguna

POSITION	AGE	SEX	QUALIFICATIONS
GA Manager	35-40	F	College graduate, HR practitioner w/ good leadership skills, at least 5 yrs experience, hard working, result-oriented, honest, willing to work long hours, w/ good communication skills, computer literate (MS Office), good moral character, analytical and a team-player
GA Supervisor/ Manager	25-35	M/F	College graduate, w/ at least 2 yrs. Supervisory Experience in a manufacturing set-up, preferably in packaging products, and/or Japanese Company. Pro-active, hardworking, honest, willing to work long hours, good communication skills, computer literate, good moral character, action oriented, analytical and team player. Knowledge in ISO is an advantage.
Logistics Manager/Asst. Manager	30-35	M	At least 2 yrs experience in handling logistics particularly in the area of import and export procedure.
Accounting Staff	20-28	F	Acctg. Graduates, w/ at least 2 yrs. experience in a manufacturing company with a computerized system, had handled bank reconciliation and recording of sales and receivables, can work under pressure with minimum supervision. Willing to work long hours.
Customer In Charge	20-28	F	Graduate of any 4 yr business course, with at least 1 yr. experience in the same field, computer literate, can work under pressure, willing to work long hours, with good communication skills and good reporting ability.
Sales Representative	20-33	M/F	College graduate, with at least 2 yrs experience in a manufacturing set-up, pro-active, hardworking, honest, willing to work long hours, good communication skills, computer literate (MS Office), good moral character, knows how to drive.
Production Assistants	19-25	M/F	High school graduate, good moral character, honest, dependable, hardworking, willing to work long hours, willing to work night shift, willing to be assigned in Rosario, Cavite.
Company Drivers	27-35	M	With valid driver's license, at least 3 yrs. experience as a driver, willing to work very long hours, can stand pressure, aggressive, can speak English. Can communicate well, neat and presentable.

Interested applicants, pls. bring your resumé with 2x2 photo
From Monday to Friday, 1 to 3 p.m.

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Foreign Trade Service Corps

DEPARTMENT OF TRADE & INDUSTRY PHILIPPINES

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to

- develop and promote growth of Philippine export in the world markets;
- generate foreign investments;
- keep local business well informed about international issues relating to:
  - market access
  - global competitiveness
  - market situation and trends

Secure Application Forms from:
Human Resource Development Service
6/F, Trade and Industry Building,
361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

Download application from DTI website
www.dti.dti.gov.ph

Applicant may submit to:
The Director
Human Resource Development Service
6/F, Trade and Industry Building,
361 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City, Philippines
e-mail: hrds@dti.dti.gov.ph
on or before **01 August 2003.**

Selection Steps

Career Service Professional Examination for TSO
August 17, 2003 – Quezon City, Philippines

DTI Technical Examination
Part I – Panel Interview
September 8, 10, 12, 16, 18, 2003 – Makati City, Philippines
Part II – Simulation Exercises
September 11, 17, 19, 2003 – Makati City, Philippines
Part III – Written Exam
September 15, 23, 2003 – Makati City, Philippines

Psychological Appraisal
October 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 2003 – Quezon City, Philippines

Excom Review
October 29, 30, 31, 2003 (tentative) – Makati City, Philippines

N.B. 1. Each selection step is a hurdle point. Candidate has to meet the required rating to be able to proceed to succeeding selection step/s.

2. Specific date per selection step will be pre-assigned to successful candidates.

STRIVE for the

Business Development
Economic Growth
SME Promotion
Trade Expansion

REQUISITES

Knowledge of:
- current international and local economic issues and business developments
- trade and investment policies
- export and investment marketing
- business counseling
- market research methodologies

Ability to:
- market Philippines as a viable source of products and services and as an investment location for international businesses
- think analytically and exercise judgement
- understand and respond strategically to the complexities inherent in the job
- manage workload under a small office environment but to imbibe strong "esprit de corps"

Personal Qualities:
- unimpaired integrity
- excellent people skills
- highly motivated, confident and action-oriented
- proactive learner

Experience and Skills:
- at least 5 years in marketing, banking and finance, economics and other related work
- excellent communication and presentation skills, both written and oral
- proficiency in computer (MS Office Programs)
- fluency in English and preferably other foreign languages

Education, Age Limit and Citizenship:
- college degree, preferably Business, Economics, International Studies, Law and Marketing (Master's Degree is a plus)
- 25 to 34 years of age
- Filipino Citizen

(PDI–July 20, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
Central Office Bids and Awards Committee
Sanlazaro Compound Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003
Trunk Line: 743-8301 local 1150-1151; Telefax: 711-6061
Website: www.doh.gov.ph

July 14, 2003

RE-INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY, SHORTLISTING AND TO BID FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH'S INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS

IFB No. 2003-8-29(17)

The Department of Health (DOH) invites eligible firms duly registered with the DTI/SEC to participate in a public bidding for the selection of Internet Service Providers (ISP) for the DOH, San Lazaro Compound.

The requirements for eligibility and shortlisting the ISPs may be obtained from the Central Office Bids and Awards Committee (COBAC) Secretariat, Procurement Division 2/F Building 26 from July 14 to 25, 2003, or may be downloaded from the DOH website (www.doh.gov.ph). ISPs who wish to offer their services must submit an official Letter of Intent (LOI) together with the required eligibility/shortlisting requirements to the DOH through the COBAC Secretariat or electronically, not later than July 28, 2003.

ISPs, which previously submitted their LOI and other requirements last June 30, 2003 will have to resubmit the requirements and write anew to the COBAC of their intent to participate.

For shortlisted ISPs, a complete set of bid documents may be purchased from the COBAC Secretariat/ Procurement Division upon payment of non-refundable fee of P2,000.00 from August 11 to 22, 2003, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday to Friday. The **Pre-Bid Conference** is on August 15, 2003 (Tuesday) at 9:00 a.m., Health Human Resource Development Bureau (HHRDB) Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Building 12-A, San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila and the deadline for the **Submission and Opening of Bids** is on August 29, 2003 (Tuesday) at 9:00 a.m., at the HHRDB Conference Room.

The approved budget for Contract is P2,000,000.00 per year.

DOH reserves the right to waive any abnormality in the responses to the eligibility and shortlisting requirements and to this Invitation. DOH further reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, annul the bidding process, declare a failure of bidding, or not to award the contract and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) **ALEXANDER A. PADILLA**
Undersecretary of Health
Chairperson, COBAC

(PDI--July 20 & 27, 2003)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The following persons are hereby notified of their overdue payments on their installments for the purchase of the following real estate properties, namely:

NAME	PROPERTY	PAYMENT(S) DUE
Raul Ramirez	Palmridge Pointe, PI B19 L24 TCT#44308	4,777,852.63
Gerard Ramiro	Palmridge Pointe, PI B20 L4 TCT# 44317	830,903.06

The above-named-persons are hereby given a grace period of two (2) months from publication of this notice within which to pay the above mentioned sums to Megaventures Realty & Dev. Corp. at the 6th Floor, Renaissance Tower D, Meralco Ave., Pasig City. Failure to pay the above amounts shall result in the cancellation of the Contracts to Sell by Megaventures Realty & Development Corp.

(PDI–July 20, 2003)

PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY
Almeda Building, Roxas Boulevard
Corner San Luis St., Pasay City
Tel. Nos. 551-9587 / 891-6444
www.peza.gov.ph

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

1. The Philippine Economic Zone Authority (THE OWNER) invites all interested bidders to Apply for Eligibility and if found to be Eligible, to bid for the Supply and Installation including Testing and Commissioning of Networking Equipment for PEZA Head Office.

2. Description of Project
   Approved Budget : P1.30 Million
   Source of Fund : PEZA

   SCOPE OF WORK
   a. Testing, reconfiguration and commissioning of 2 existing units of Cisco Router 2509.
   b. Supply, Installation and testing of Structure Cables –
      - Gigabit backbone – PEZA building – 2nd to 6th floors with termination to the Network Data Center (NDC)
      - Cat5e for horizontal cables
      - Network Data Center (NDC) will use Cat6 cables
   c. Supply, installation configuration, testing and commissioning of Edge Switches and Core Switch.
   d. Provision of technical support and training to the operation of the systems and equipment.

3. Eligibility Documents may be secured upon presentation of BAC Certificate of Registration and payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE HUNDRED PESOS (P500.00) from the BAC Secretariat 3/F Almeda Building, Roxas Boulevard corner San Luis St., Pasay City from 17 to 23 July 2003, 8:00 am to 5:00 pm, Mondays to Fridays only. Eligibility Documents must be submitted to the BAC Secretariat not later than 3:00 pm of 30 July 2003. All applicants will be informed in writing of their Eligibility or Ineligibility.

4. Time and date of the Pre-Bid Conference and the Deadline for the submission and Opening of Bids will be indicated in the Bidding Documents that will be available to Eligible Bidders.

5. PEZA reserves the right to reject any application or bids or any part thereof, to waive any defect or informality therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the Applicant and/or Bidder may incur in the preparation of Eligibility Documents and of the Bids, and will entertain only such Bid/s established to be the most advantageous to the Government.

THE CHAIRMAN
Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI–July 13 & 20, 2003)

NO JOBS IN IRAQ YET

Call POEA at

722-1144 or 722-1155

Philippine Postal Savings Bank, Inc.

PostalBank Center, Liwasang Bonifacio, Manila
ASSET MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

INVITATION TO RE-BID

The **Philippine Postal Savings Bank, Inc.** through its Asset Management Committee (AMC) invites interested buyers to re-bid on any of the items listed below. The submission and opening of all bid proposals will be on July 25, 2003, 2:00 p.m. at 2nd Floor, Postal Bank Building, Liwasang Bonifacio, Manila.

Code No.	Location	Land Data	Floor Price
01	Brgy. Balao, Abra de Ilog Occidental Mindoro	2,520 sqm. residential lot	P .504M
02	Brgy. Silang Junction West Tagaytay City	10,000 sqm. Res./Agri.	P 24M
03	No. 23 4th Avenue Brgy. Bagong Lipunan, Quezon City	105 sqm. Residential	P .980M
04	Brgy. San Jose, Puerto Princesa City Palawan	1,561 sqm. Res./Agri.	P .624M
05	Sampaguita Street, Brgy. Andagao Kalibo City, Aklan	819 sqm. Residential	P 1.229M
06	Brgy. San Nicolas, Masantol Pampanga	1,813 sqm. Agricultural	P .363M
07	Brgy. Bulihan, Malolos Bulacan	3,750 sqm. Res./Agri.	P 5.364M
08	Brgy. San Andres, Candelaria Quezon	72,244 sqm. Res./Agri.	P 5.780M
09	Brgy. Sapang Bato, Angeles City	85,000 sqm. Agricultural	P 6.8M
10	Brgy. Sto. Niño, San Pablo City	17,746 sqm. Industrial	P 29.337M
11	Ridgedale Subd. Talamban, Cebu City	514 sqm. Residential	P 1.85M
12	Tuliao, Sta. Barbara, Pangasinan	3,759 sqm. Agricultural	P 4.891M
13	Suaco, Mangatarem, Pangasinan	2,044 sqm. Agricultural	P .613M
14	Poblacion, Mapandan, Pangasinan	8,436 sqm. Agricultural	P 7.591M
15	Torrell, Mangatarem, Pangasinan	300 sqm. Residential	P .36M
16	Salvante, Urbiztondo, Pangasinan	36,173 sqm. Agricultural	P 3.862M
17	Caranglaan, Dagupan City	407 sqm. Residential	P .451M
18	Guivel, San Jacinto, Pangasinan	36,078 sqm. Agricultural	P 1.276M
19	Brgy. 36-A Calban, Tacloban City	1,000 sqm. School Bldg.	P 2.275M
20	Azurin Subd. San Jose, Antique	307 sqm. Residential	P .460M
21	Basi, Solana, Cagayan	1,012 sqm. Residential	P .081M
22	Angang, Tuao, Cagayan	2,240 sqm. Residential	P .124M
23	Angang, Tuao, Cagayan	2,249 sqm. Residential	P .173M
24	San Gabriel, Tuguegarao City	339 sqm. Residential	P .530M
25	Maguiling, Piat, Cagayan	1,500 sqm. Agricultural	P .225M

(as is where is)

All bids must be submitted in a sealed envelope with the *Code No.* corresponding to the property/chattel written on the face of the envelope. A deposit equivalent to 10% of the total offer is required upon acceptance of the proposal.

PostalBank reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defects or informalities contained therein or accept the offer/bid considered most advantageous to the Bank.

For further information regarding the other terms and conditions, please call 5270098, 5270040, 5270053 loc. 103.

(Sgd.) **EDWIN A. REMODO**
Chairman-AMC

(PDI - July 19 & 20, 2003)

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"In my Father's house are many rooms
I am going there to prepare a place for you
I will come back and take you to be with me.
That you may also be where I am." John 14:2-3

Oscar "Moreno" Anson Y Gamboa

(October 25, 1921 – July 19, 2003)

His Spouses: **Belen Cristobal** (†) and **Sally Richards**

His Children: **Boots & Pete, Nonoy & Tina, Monching & Susan, Vicky & Tim, Oca & Nora, Natalie & Brett, Neil, Joannie & Brian, Alvin, Liz**

Sisters: **Esther, Angelita** and **Claire**

Brothers: **Cesar, Pepe, Waldo, Tony** and **Luis**

Cousin: **Tony dela Sierra**

Grandchildren and Great grandchildren request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

He lies in state at Funeraria Paz, Inc., Araneta Ave., Q.C.

Cremation will be on Thursday, July 24, 2003 at 10:00 a.m. after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

In Loving Memory

on the **First Death Anniversary**
of our dearly beloved

Maj Gen Felipe "Pipes" C Gaerlan

12 May 1948 - 20 July 2002
PMA - Class 1970

His loving parents **Manuel Sr.** (†) and **Elvira**; family, brothers and sisters, in-laws, relatives and friends request the pious readers to remember **Pipes** in their prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

The Holy Sacrifice of the Mass shall be offered at the following churches, July 20, 2003:

CHURCH	TIME
SANCTUARIO DE SAN ANTONIO, Mckinley Rd., Forbes Park	12:00 PM; 6:00 PM
ST. MICHAEL THE ARCHANGEL, Fort Bonifacio	12:15 PM
STA. SUSANA, ST. JEROME, Alabang (nr. Town Center), Muntinlupa	11:00 AM
ST. JAMES THE GREATER PARISH, Ayala Alabang Village, Alabang, Muntinlupa	8:00 AM
OUR LADY OF ALL NATIONS, Col. Jesus Villamor Air Base, Pasay	11:45 AM; 6:00 PM
OUR LADY OF REMEDIES, Air Force City, Clark, Pampanga	9:00 AM
SHRINE OF THE CHILD JESUS, La Salle Greenhills, Mandaluyong	4:30 PM
ST. IGNATIUS CATHEDRAL, Camp Aguinaldo, Q.C.	9:00 AM
ST. DOMINIC CATHEDRAL, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya	8:30 AM
PARISH OF THE HOLY SACRIFICE, University of the Phils., Diliman, Q.C.	11:00 AM
IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY PARISH, Claret, UP Village, Diliman, Q.C.	11:00 AM

"For God so loved the world, that He gave us His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life."
John 3:16

ALBERT C. GUTIERREZ
&
ARIEL C. REAL

Joined their Creator on July 15, 2003 at the age of 32 & 28.

Their loving mother **Atty. Carmencita de Castro Real, Albert's loving son, Luis, Ariel's loving wife L.A.; children Patrixia, Tristan Joseph & Dominique,** uncles & aunts, cousins, in-laws, relatives and faithful friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of their souls.

Their remains lie in state at the **Mount Carmel Shrine Parish, Doña Juana Rodriguez Ave., Broadway, New Manila, Quezon City.**

We invite everyone to join us in the celebration of a Holy Mass in their memory at **10:00 a.m., July 23, 2003,** to be held at **Manila Memorial Park Chapel, Sucat, Parañaque.** Interment will follow after the 10:00 a.m. Mass.

In Loving Memory

of the **First Death Anniversary**
of the late

GAUDENCIO CU BORJA

Born: January 09, 1924 - Died: July 20, 2002

Holy Masses will be offered on July 20, 2003 (Sunday) at the following churches:

Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish, New Manila, Q.C.	6:00 AM	
St. Jude Archdiocesan Shrine, J.P. Laurel, San Miguel, Mla.	6:30 AM	
Parish of St. John the Baptist, (Quiapo Church), Manila		4:00 PM
Sanctuario del Sto. Cristo, (Aquinas Church), San Juan, Metro Manila	8:00 AM	5:00 PM
Christ the King Parish, Greenmeadows Avenue, Q.C.	8:00 AM	6:30 PM
Sta. Cruz Parish, Manila		7:15 PM
Nat'l Shrine of St. Michael & The Archangels, (San Miguel Church) J.P. Laurel, Manila	9:00 AM	
San Sebastian Parish, Plaza del Carmen, Quiapo, Manila	10:00 AM	

His spouse, Serafina (HoBon Lao) Borja and their children and spouses Leni & Noel, Elvie, Gerry & Jennifer, and Gerwin and their grandchildren Nicole, Kimberly and Kristen extend their sincerest gratitude to the many who offered prayers, Masses, flowers, and in some other way condoled with them in the hour of their bereavement and request for continued prayers for the eternal repose and happiness of his soul.

Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.
Matthew 10:39

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." **Matthew 11:28**

JOSE MARIA MARFORI ASUNCION
a.k.a. VIC VARGAS

Died peacefully in the Grace of our Lord on July 19, 2003.

His bereaved family, relatives and friends request the readers to pray for his eternal happiness in heaven.

His cremains lie in state at the Del Pilar Chapel in Funeraria Paz, Manila Memorial Park, Parañaque City.

A Mass will be held for him on Sunday, July 20, 2003, at 5:00 p.m.

The funeral Mass will be celebrated on Monday, July 21 at 3:00 p.m.

An obituary with a picture can be a fitting tribute to your departed loved one.

OBITUARY REQUIREMENTS:
❶ Copy of Death Certificate
❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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Our Dearly Beloved "Dade"

BRO. DIOSDADO IGNACIO BARTOLOME

Chairman of COMFI
(Charismatic Outreach Ministries Foundation, Inc.)

peacefully joined his Creator on July 14, 2003 at the age of 69.

His bereaved wife **LIGAYA**; children and in-laws; **Fernando & Nena, Alejandro & Rhia, Ricardo & Jo, Gonie & Amie, Connie & Sonny, Floyd & Sally, Nida & Edwin, Jojo & Hermie, Vangie & Arnold, Mabel & Larry, Angelica & Enrico, Christian & Monette;** Grandchildren; great grandchildren and other relatives request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the COMFI Worship Center, BF Homes, Parañaque City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, July 22, 2003 at 3:00 p.m. at the Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque City.

Message of Thanks

We, the family of the late

C/M Edgar Roxas Martinez

of Kamuning, Quezon City
(May 23, 1963 - June 24, 2003)

wish to convey their deepest gratitude to all those who came to condole with us in our hour of bereavement and to all those who sent flowers, mass cards, offered prayers & messages of sympathy & who in countless ways provided strength & comfort.

For the needs of your departed Loved Ones, the following establishments can help you.

ARLINGTON MEMORIAL CHAPEL
12 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City;
Tels. 715-1025; 715-1031; 715-1027

ARLINGTON EAST THE GARDEN CHAPELS
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San Miguel Ave., Pasig City
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243 A.B. Fernandez Ave., Dagupan City, Pangasinan
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1305 G. Araneta Avenue, Quezon City;
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Cebu Branch: A.S. Fortuna Street; Banilad,
Mandaue City, Cebu;
Tels. 346-2543; 346-2601

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Nivel Hills, Lahug, Cebu City;
Tels. 231-0721; 231-3192

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Tels. 2812963; 2813034; 2810522

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Tels. (045) 888-2959 ; (045) 322-5247

FUNERARIA ANGEL QUIOGUE
No. 67 Pasig Boulevard Extension, Pasig City;
Tels. 641-7909; 641-1735
M. Almeda St., Pateros, Metro Manila;
Tels. 642-3010; 633-3602

FUNERARIA FILIPINAS
187 Real St., Zapote Alabang, Las Piñas;
Tels. 873-0507; 873-0024

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865 J.P. Rizal St., Poblacion, Makati City;
Tels. 890-3556; 899-8191

FUNERARIA TUASON
Poblacion, San Miguel, Bulacan 3011;
Tels. (044) 764-0281; 678-0266; (0917) 895-0603

FUNERARIA SAMSON
145 Bayan Luma, Imus, Cavite;
Tels. (046) 471-3375; 471-2675

GARDEN OF MEMORIES MEMORIAL PARK
Calsadang Bago, Pateros, Metro Manila;
Tels. 642-6181 to 82

HERITAGE PARK
Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig, Metro Manila
Tels. (DL) 845-2341 to 42; (TL) 845-2334 to 38 loc. 110/112

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10:30AM SHARP
VIEWING DATE: MONDAY 28TH JULY AND TUESDAY 29TH JULY 2003
9:00AM - 5:00PM AND MORNING OF SALE DAY
REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT: PHP50,000 (UPON REGISTRATION)

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- 5 years Residency in General Surgery accredited by PCS
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3. Itemized Board Rating
4. Three (3) Letters of Recommendation (coming from different Doctors specifically the Training Officer &/or Director of the previous training programs)
5. Four (4) pcs. "2x2" picture colored
6. Certificate of Residency in required specialty
7. Specialty Board Certificate in required specialty

Please address your communications to:

JOSE A. YULDE, M.D.
Assistant Director
Office of Education and Research
Philippine Heart Center
East Avenue, Quezon City

** Deadline for submission of application is on August 31, 2003*
** Academic Year 2003 starts on January 1, 2004*

For further inquiries, please contact Ms. Carmela M. Ocasion (cp# 09196239902) or Ms. Cleopatra Q. Palencia (cp# 09163021735) with Tel. Nos. 925-2401 locals 3234, 3235, 3236 & 3237 and Telefax 926-9622, or you can email to oer@phc.gov.ph

(PDI - June 29, July 6, 13 & 20, 2003)

Trans Co

NATIONAL TRANSMISSION CORPORATION
South Luzon Regional Operation & Maintenance

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID
AD NO. TRANSCO 2003-08B

The Southern Luzon Transco (SLT), Transco wishes to invite interested parties to apply for eligibility and to bid on the items listed below:

SCHEDULE		ITEM DESCRIPTION	PR NUMBER
		DATE OF BIDDING: AUGUST 12, 2003; 02:00 PM	
A1	3 UNITS	CAPACITOR FILTER PROTECTIVE RELAY	3NCS-03-046
A2	2 SETS	PHASE & GROUND OVERCURRENT RELAY	PSMD-N-03-093
A3	1 SET	THREE PHASE TRANSFORMER TURNS RATIO TEST SET	3PSMD-S-03-031
A4	32 SETS	FAULT INDICATOR	3D30-03-018

Complete sets of Application Form for Eligibility and Bid Documents may be obtained from the Office of the Manager, Administration Division, SLT, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P100.00 per schedule starting **July 22, 2003**. No bid documents will be issued on the date of bidding.

Bids will be received at the SLT Bidding Room, Transco-SL, San Vicente, Biñan, Laguna until 02:00 o'clock P.M. on the date specified above after which Eligibility Requirements and Initial Technical Proposals of eligible bidders will be opened in the presence of attending bidders.

Prospective Bidders shall signify conformance to bidding terms and conditions as required and shall ensure the same through proper submission/execution. The procurement rules and regulations used in this transaction shall be in accordance with the implementing rules and regulations of "Executive Order 40."

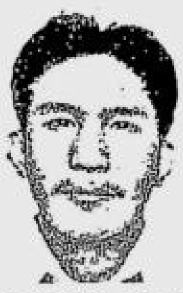
The Bidder shall furnish as part of his bid, a bid security in the amount equivalent to at least 1% of the approved budget in the form of Cash, Manager's/Cashier's Check, Certified Check, Bank Draft, Irrevocable Letter of Credit, or 1.5% of the approved budget in the form of Bank Guarantee, or 2.5% of the approved budget in the form of Surety Bond, penal and callable on demand issued by a Surety or Insurance Company accredited by the Office of the Insurance Commission.

The Corporation reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, and to annul the bidding process and reject all bids at anytime prior to award of contract, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders or any obligations to inform the affected bidder or bidders of the grounds for the basis of the BAC's action.

(Sgd.) R.D. RAMAS
CHAIRMAN-BAC
TRANSCO SOUTH

(PDI – July 20, 2003)

TO ALL PRODUCERS, SUPPLIERS, CLIENTS OF NORTH STAR INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL, INC./ TQ3 TRAVEL SOLUTIONS/TQ3 NORTH STAR



EDWIN A. GRICO

WHOSE PICTURE APPEARS ABOVE IS NO LONGER CONNECTED IN ANY MANNER WITH NORTHSTAR INT'L. TRAVEL, INC./TQ3 TRAVEL SOLUTIONS/TQ3 NORTH STAR.

MR. GRICO HAVING RESIGNED AS OF MARCH 21, 2003, IS NO LONGER ALLOWED TO USE WHATEVER PRIVILEGES, CONNECTIONS, ETC. HE ENJOYED WHILE AN EMPLOYEE OF NORTH STAR.

(PDI - July 20, 2003)

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CAMERA - 35mm Photographic Equipment for L=Ø549; POLAROID Camera Attachment; 35mm Camera Body MT1; JVC Colour Video Camera; NIKON F601 w/ Cable & F Mount; POLAROID Attachment; (3) CCD Camera; TAKAGI Video Adaptor for SM-70; (6) CAMERA Adaptor w/ Mount; (6) TILT Colposcope
MICROSCOPES - SPECTRA 500; (3) TAKAGI Operation w/ Inline Coupling; Portable Operation for ENT; TAKAGI Zoom Photo Slit Lamp

Location: Makati City, Philippines
On-line Sale Starts: Tuesday 8th July 2003
On-line Sale Ends: Tuesday 22nd July 2003 -
11:00 GMT (6:00pm - Mnl Time)
Viewing: Strictly By Appointment Only

For further information please contact Mr. Arvin Cortez
Tel: +63 2 852 2910/11 loc 110 Fax: +63 2 831 9507
E-mail: arvin.cortez@henrybutcher.com

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Republic of the Philippines
Province of Negros Oriental
Provincial General Services Office
Dumaguete City

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY AND TO BID

The Committee on Awards of the Provincial Government of Negros Oriental invites all interested suppliers of brand-new and surplus Heavy Equipment to pre-qualify and submit sealed bids for the following requirements, viz.

1. TWO (2) UNITS BRAND-NEW VIBRATORY SOIL COMPACTORS as specified
2. TWO (2) UNITS BRAND-NEW MOTOR GRADERS as specified
3. ONE (1) UNIT RECONDITIONED JAPAN-SURPLUS WHEEL LOADER as specified
4. TEN (10) UNITS RECONDITIONED JAPAN-SURPLUS (CBU) TEN-WHEELER DUMP TRUCKS as specified
5. TWO (2) UNITS RECONDITIONED JAPAN-SURPLUS SKW COBRA DUMP TRUCKS as specified
6. TWO (2) UNITS RECONDITIONED JAPAN-SURPLUS WATER TRUCKS as specified
7. ONE (1) UNIT RECONDITIONED JAPAN-SURPLUS HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR (BACKHOE) 4-WHEEL DRIVE as specified
8. ONE (1) UNIT RECONDITIONED JAPAN-SURPLUS BACKHOE (HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR) CRAWLER-TYPE as specified
9. ONE (1) UNIT RECONDITIONED MOBILE ROCK CRUSHER as specified

All bidders must accredit with the Committee on Awards not later than August 1, 2003. The list of pre-qualification requirements may be obtained from the Committee on Awards Secretariat (Provincial General Services Office).

Sealed bids will be accepted on or before August 8, 2003 not later than 10:00 o'clock in the morning by the Committee on Awards at the Provincial General Services Office, Capitol Area, Dumaguete City, at which time and place said bid proposals will be opened

A Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on August 1, 2003 at 10:00 o'clock in the morning at the same venue. Bid forms are available right after the pre-bid conference upon payment of the non-refundable amount of Php300.00.

All equipment offered in the bidding are subject to inspection, evaluation and testing before any award is made.

The Committee on Awards reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any required formality and award the contract to the bidder whose bid proposal as evaluated by the Committee is the most advantageous to the government, not to indemnify the bidders for any expense or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made

(Sgd.) GEORGE P. ARNAIZ
Governor of Negros Oriental

(PDI - July 20, 2003)

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SUPERMARKET SERIES (Free)
- by PASI / PAGASA
1:00pm Supermarket Engineering System
2:00pm Winning with Private Labels
3:00pm The Art of Giving Great Service
4:00pm Aisle Management
5:00pm Here Comes the SuperCenter Will I Survive?

ENTREPRENEUR SERIES PART I (Free)
- by Entrepreneur Magazine
1:00pm Creating a Business Plan
2:00pm Computing for Profits
3:30pm Getting Business Licenses
4:30pm Protecting Your Trademark

RESTAURANT 101 SERIES (Free)
12noon Feng Shui for Restaurants - by Master Aldric Dolompinas of Feng Shui Emergency
2:00pm Competing in a New Restaurant Environment by Johnlu Koa of The French Baker
3:30pm Marketing Strategies for Restaurants by Josiah Go of Mansmith & Fielders

DAY 2 (Aug. 7)

ENTREPRENEUR SERIES PART II (Free)
- by Entrepreneur Magazine
1:00pm Coming Up with the Right Brand
2:00pm Finding the Right Location
3:30pm Raising Money For Your Business
4:30pm Different Sources of Funds
5:30pm Going into Franchising - by Francorp

BAKERY SERIES (By Invitation Only)
- by Cosmic Chemical Corporation
1-6pm Innovative Baking

DAY 3 (Aug. 8)

FOOD TECHNOLOGIES SERIES (Free)
1:00pm Proper Food Handling - by Kimberly Clark
2:00pm How to Acquire a Halal Certification by Dr. Dato Tahir S. Lidasan Jr
3:30pm Toll Manufacturing: Bridging Links Between Farm & Trade - by Northfield Laboratories
4:30pm Safety Handling Tips - by Petron Gasul Corp

CULINARY SERIES (Fee: P 900 for the series)
- by Hotel & Restaurant Chefs Assoc. of the Phils.
1-6pm Cooking Workshop with Executive Chefs

DAY 4 (Aug. 9)

DEVELOPING A WINNING TEAM IN THE FOOD BUSINESS (Fee: P 500 for the series)
- by TEAMS CONSULTING INC (Training Experts & Mgmt. Specialists)
1-5pm What Kind of Employees Must We Have In Our Biz To Win The Competition? How Do We Instill Quality Service & Consciousness In our Employees? How Can We Produce Happy Employees & Productive Employees?

CATERING SERIES (Fee: P 900 for the series)
- by Food Caterers Assoc. of the Phils. (FCAP)
11:00am Marketing & Promoting Your Business
12:00nn Lifestyle-Taste & Color/Flower Arrangement
1:00pm Cook & Chill - Food Safety
2:00pm Butchering
3:00pm Cooking with Billy King of La Souffle

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4	MASAMANG UGAT

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7	DOWN WITH LOVE
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8	DOWN WITH LOVE
9	BANGKOK HAUNTED
10	DEATH WATCH

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8	DOWN WITH LOVE
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11	THE HUNTED
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7	CLOSED
8	REAL CANCUN

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6	CHARLIE'S ANGELS 2

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3	CHARLIE'S ANGELS 2
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3	ADAPTATION
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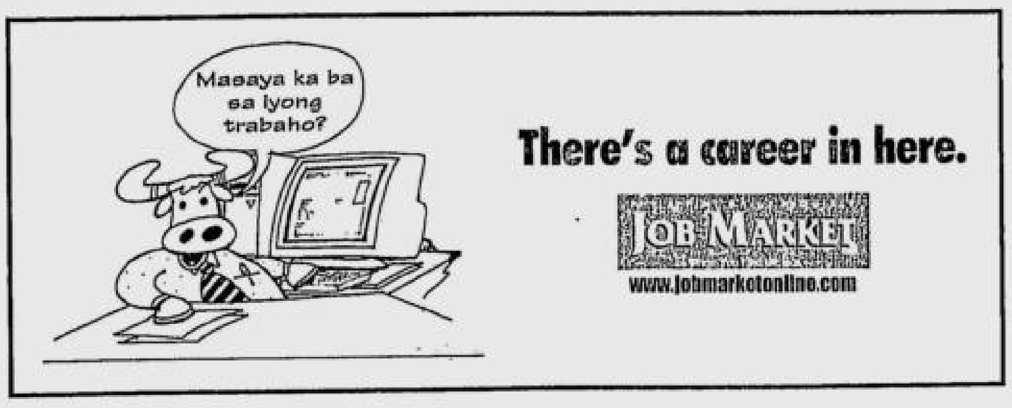
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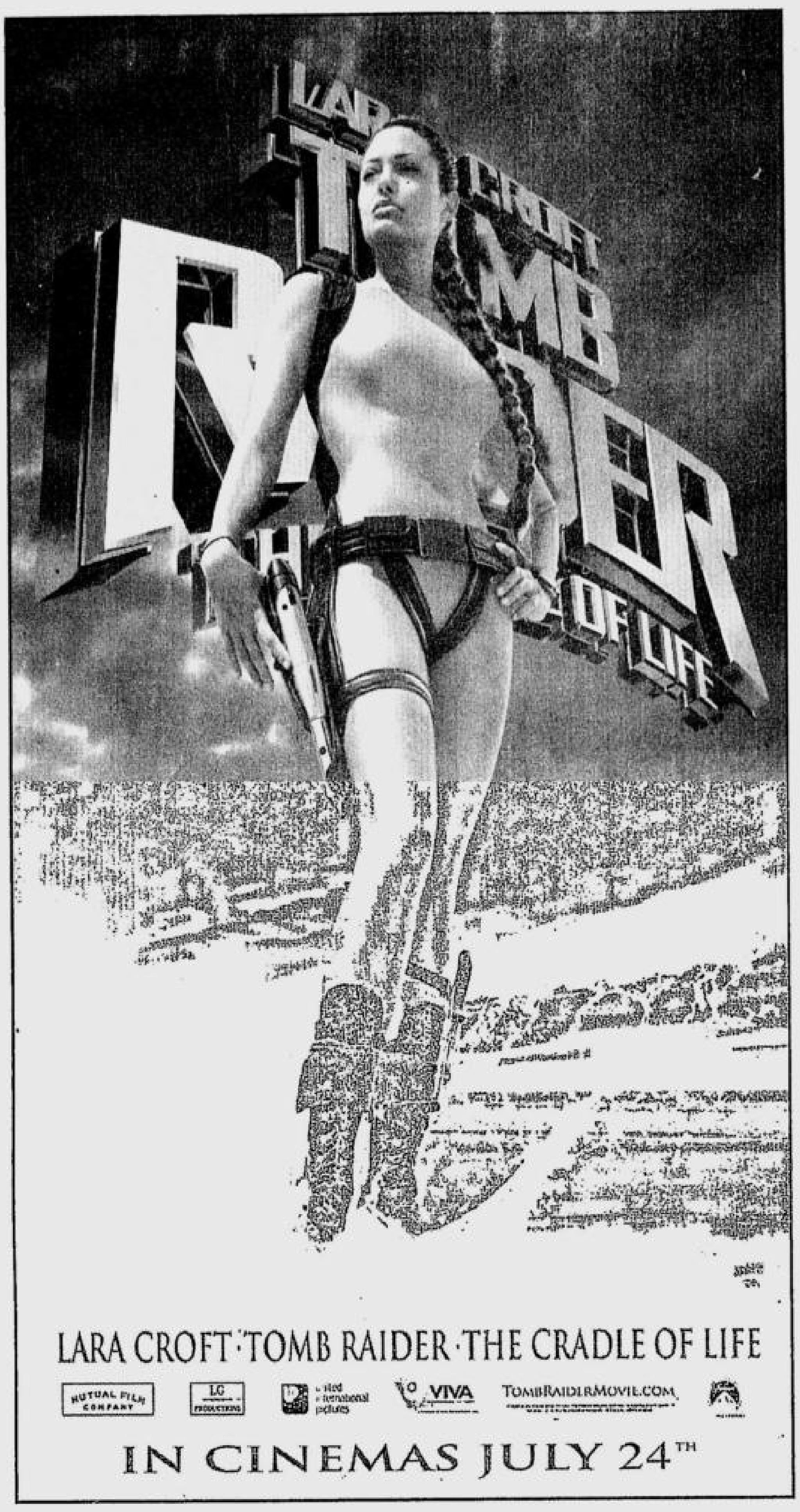
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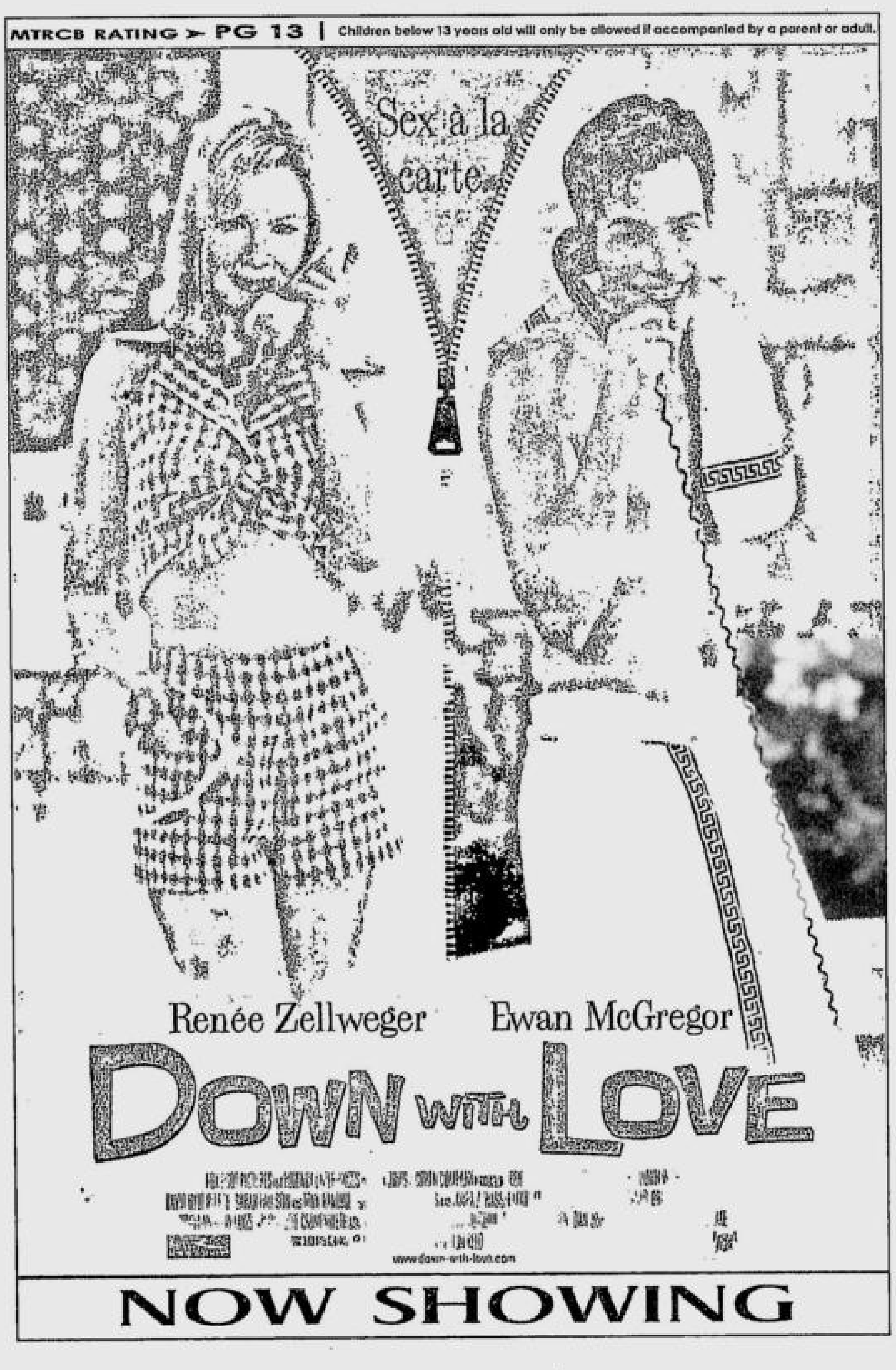
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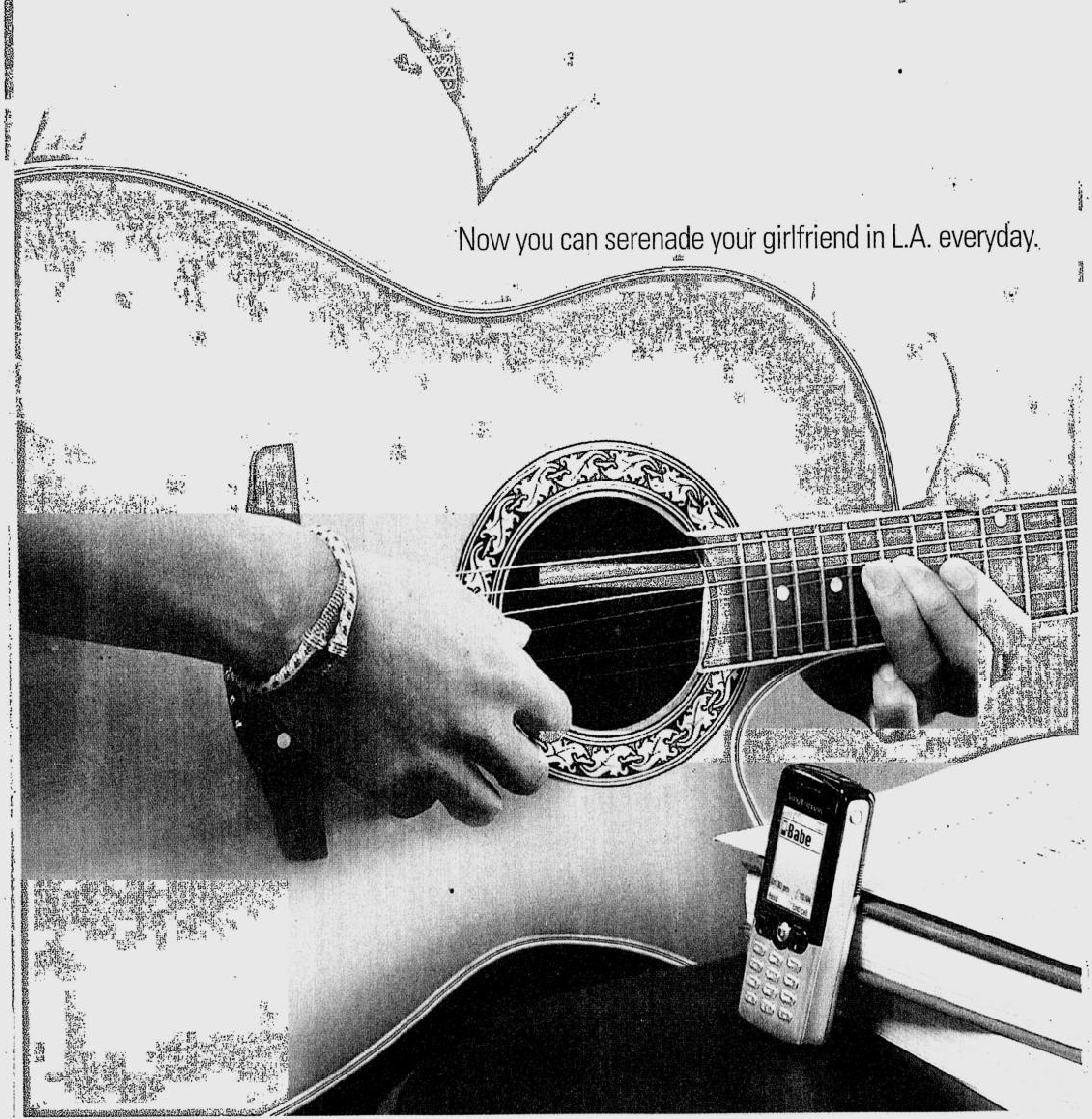

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ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Louie C. Camino

Nora Aunor, start filming despite filmfest bump-off

By Jocelyn Valle
Contributor

DIRECTOR Elwood Perez and the producer will still proceed with the filming of the Nora Aunor movie even when it has been bumped off from the Metro Manila Film Festival Philippines (MMFFP) this December.

"Shooting starts next week," Perez told INQUIRER Entertainment.

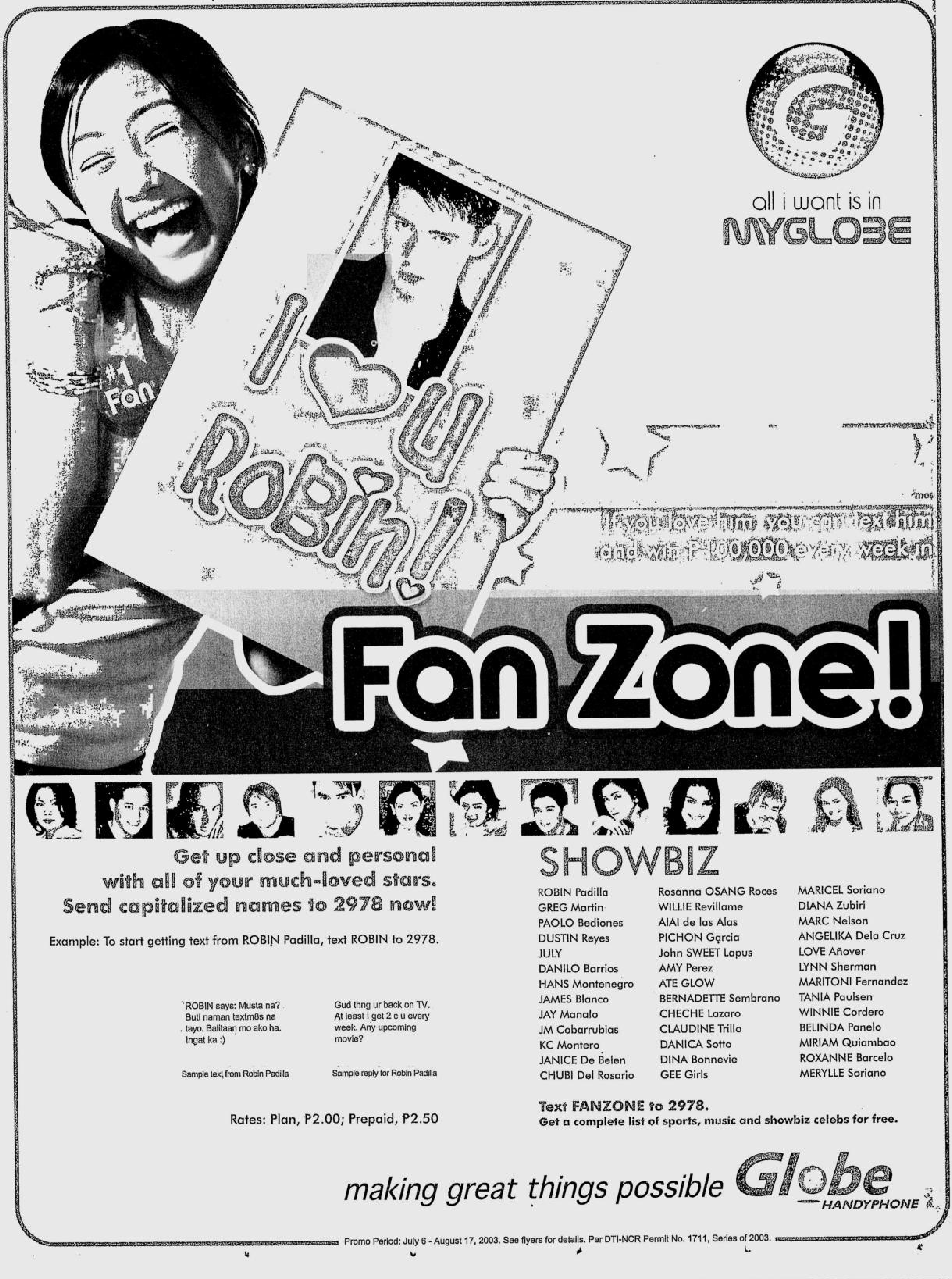
Perez himself said the Aunor movie will cost Angora Films P80 million to produce.

Perez said that last Thursday, the day the MMFFP selection committee announced the 10 movies chosen to be in the festival, he was on his way to a location hunt for "Bituin, Buwan at Araw." But Manalo had asked him to be at the Dulcinea restaurant in Quezon City for the announcement.

Perez said he even changed into a formal

NORA/ C2

ELWOOD PEREZ. "Gusto niyo bang ituloy ko?"



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The beauty of sadness in the music of Sheik

DIFFERENT DUNCAN moods: "Everything sounds so similar. I'm trying to do something different." JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

By Raquel P. Gomez

THE SERIOUS and brooding Duncan Sheik, whose songs are mostly about sadness, love gone awry, the mysteriousness of the universe, or time and season, particularly of winter, can be funny.

When asked if he considered himself a rock star, he answered, "No, not at all. I would define myself as a mediocre golfer."

When he learned, during the interview last Wednesday night, that this writer is from the INQUIRER, he joked that he had a twin brother who was an alien but who could also sing. "That may be a scoop," he added. He was apparently thinking of the US supermarket tabloid National Enquirer. "That may be a scoop," he said.

Sheik has four albums so far, all from Atlantic Records. His debut album, "Duncan Sheik," was released in 1996 and it propelled him into the mainstream pop consciousness. "Barely Breathing" from the album stayed on the Billboard charts for 13 months. "She Runs Away" and "In the Absence of the Sun," which also became part of the soundtrack of the movie "The Saint," were hits from this album too. "Wishful Thinking," a single released in 1998, was on the soundtrack of the Gwyneth Paltrow movie "Great Expectations."

New genre

Next came "Humming" in 1998, which included the hit single "Alibi," and which also made it to the soundtrack of the movie "Teaching Mrs. Tingle." The cut "That Says it All" was heard in the movie "Three to Tango."

"Phantom Moon" came out in 2001, a result of Sheik's collaboration with New York playwright Steven Sater, who wrote the lyrics. One Internet fan site review described the album as totally opposite to some of the radio-friendly tunes Sheik had done before. Pop listeners more used to Duncan's melancholic pop melodies seemed not yet ready to listen to such pure seriousness.

"That's exactly the point," Sheik said in the interview. "You want to have a career, and you want to be able to make music the way you want to make it. I don't want to say that I ever compromised, but subconsciously you do something maybe popular.

"To me the artists I find most interesting are the ones in between the cracks, those in between different (music) genres," he said. "(Their songs) may not be necessarily popular."

Creating a new musical genre is the current preoccupation of Sheik, who preceded John Mayer. "I wish I could come up with a good genre," he said. "Unfortunately, these days, I think a lot of bands become very homogenous. Everything sounds very similar. I'm trying to do something a little bit different."

Weird, interesting

Sheik says he is moved by sadness, the prevalent mood in most of his songs. "I think there's a lot of beauty in that (sadness)," he said. "I think things that are sad can really be beautiful."

He remembered that her musician grandmother, who influenced him, was baffled that some of his songs were not heard on radio.

"When I made my first record, there was one song that was a hit and then there was a lot that was, like, not pop music at all, unconventional, nothing that you would want to hear on the radio, ever," he said. "And my grandmother was like, 'why don't you put those songs on the radio?'"

Sheik went to Brown University to study semiotics. This South Carolina artist raised by a single working mother was very interested in the effects of pop music on people. "It's like pretty weird and interesting," he said.

He also went to a boarding school in England. When he was in college, he was a guitarist in Lisa Loeb's band, Liz & Lisa.

Practising Buddhist

"I have been playing the guitar since I was a little kid, he said. "But I couldn't sing. I was terrified of singing in public. I didn't sing at all till I was in my 20s. With Lisa, I didn't sing, I would just play the guitar."

He has been practising Buddhism since he was 19. He chants in the morning and in the evening, every day.

"It's major part of my life," he said. "It was one of the things that helped me to be able to get up onstage and perform and not totally freak out. My Buddhist practice is enormously galvanizing and helpful. It's how I get my creative energy."

He was a 1980s new wave music fan. "A lot of English bands, The Smiths, New Order, Talk Talk, Tears for Fears. I was inspired by their music."

Sheik performed in Manila July 18-19 and also promoted his album, "Daylight," released in August 2002. He described his new album as "a rock record, music that has more rock energy. It's my own take on what a rock record should be."

DID YOU KNOW...

Renzo Cruz, who has not been seen in a new movie for a long time now, was seen malling at Glorietta 4 in Makati City's Ayala Center with his partner, who's not from show biz, his son and a nanny on a recent Thursday afternoon.

Nora Aunor start filming . . .

From page C1

shirt after a friend suggested that he wear something more proper for the occasion. "I was that confident," the filmmaker added.

"Attorney Gaudioso believes Nora Aunor is a national treasure and deserves his support," he added.

But at the restaurant that afternoon, the 15-person committee, headed by Caloocan City Mayor Rey Malonzo, said the movies that were excluded from the festival were "not commercially viable."

"How can it not be commercially viable?" Perez said in disbelief after the announcement.

He said the Aunor project is aimed at the family, is character-driven and involves several generations. It will costar Snooky Serna and Aiza Seguerra.

The selection committee members include filmmakers Marilou Diaz Abaya and Joey Romero, and producer Wilson Tieng.

Romero agreed with Perez that "Bituin, Buwan and Araw" has a very good script.

"It reminded me of 'Chicago,'" said Romero. "But in the history of the Metro film festival, musicals have no box-office potentials."

"Attorney Manalo has so much faith in the project," Perez told INQUIRER Entertainment yesterday.

Perez said he was in Pagsanjan, Laguna to meet with former fashion designer Ernest Santiago, the movie's creative consultant.

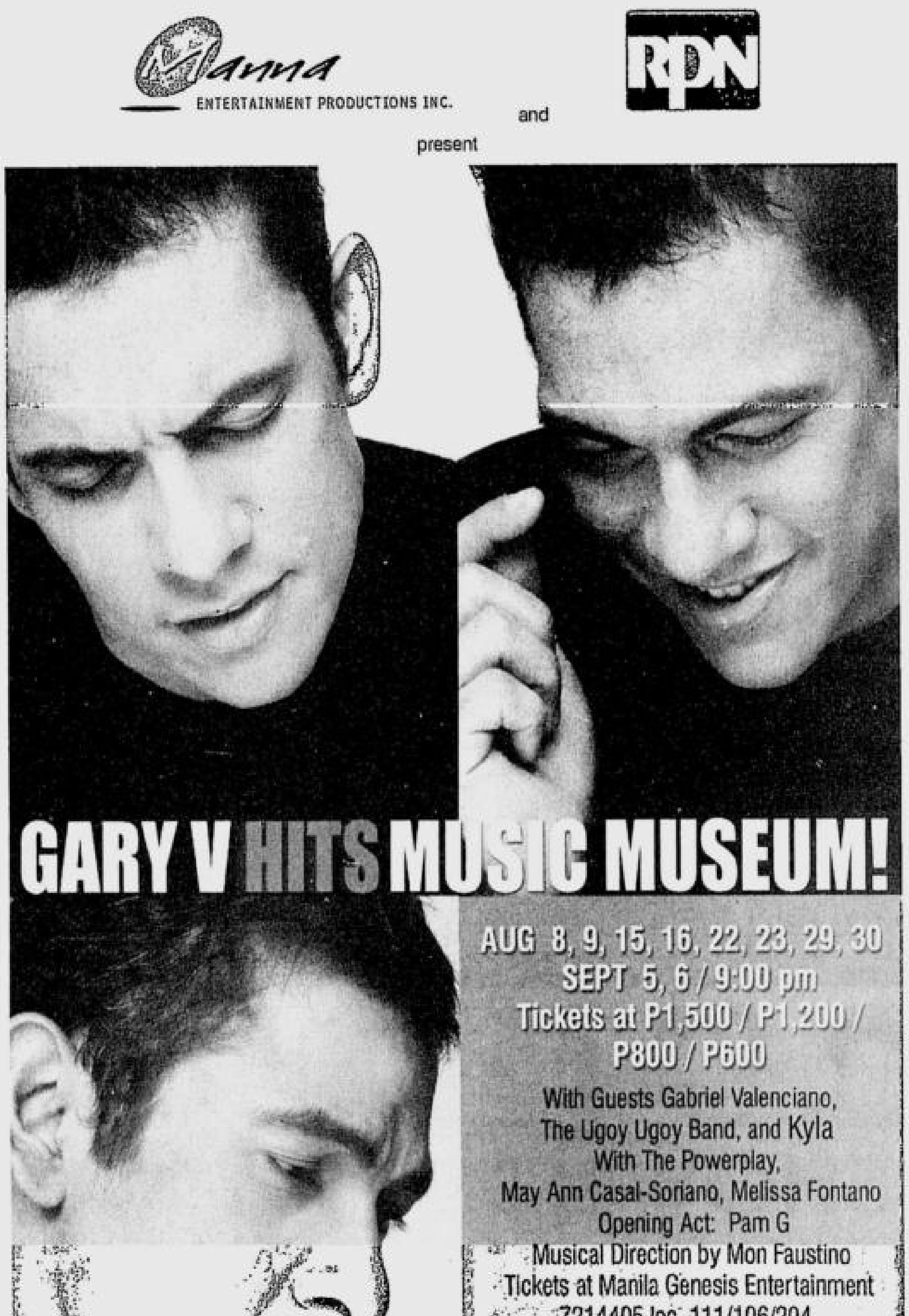
"The location hunt is in progress," said Perez.

When media people kept asking Perez if he thought the committee's decision was politically motivated, he answered, "I won't be badgered into answering in the affirmative."

Tieng explained on Thursday that the selection committee had long deliberations before they could come up with the official lineup.

"The judges come from different sectors of the movie industry," said Tieng. "*Kapalaran na lang talaga ang mapili.*"

NORA/ C7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Diet sued over P10,000 worth of fries

By Tina Santos and Marinel Cruz

ACTOR Diether Ocampo, talent manager Deo Edrinal and a business partner are facing criminal charges for failing to pay more than P10,000 worth of French fries they bought four years ago.

"I don't understand why he had to file a case against us," said Edrinal. "We could easily settle this problem out of court."

He was referring to businessman Roderick Cinco, owner of Multi-B Foodlink Ventures, who charged him, Ocampo and their business partner Edgar Mangahas with estafa and violation of the Bouncing Check Law.

Cinco, of Bansalangin Street, Veterans Village, Project, Quezon City, last Friday filed the estafa case before the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office.

Edrinal said he had not received a copy of the complaint as of Friday night. "I cannot comment on a complaint that I have not even read," he told INQUIRER Entertainment.

Ocampo, Edrinal and Mangahas were co-owners a bar-restaurant called Cilantro that used to operate on Tomas Morato Avenue in Quezon City.

Edrinal explained that when Cilantro closed in 1999, the site became Entertainment Place, which was replaced by Mocha Blends early this year.

Cinco's complaint said that in 1999, Ocampo and company bought French fries worth P10,431 from his firm and issued a check for the purchase. However, PCI Bank did not honor the check because the account was already closed, he said.

Cinco said he decided to sue because the three men ignored his repeated demands.

He said he sent his final letter of demand to Ocampo and company on June 20, 2002.

"He knows he could get in touch with Diether through ABS-CBN," Edrinal pointed out referring to their accuser. "I don't understand why he did not."

He said the three of them were not directly involved in the operation of the former restaurant, but "we could have easily paid off the debt."

OCAMPO

THE MUHLACHS. Niño, Edith and their son Sandro. "He's lucky to have us," she says

'I still love Niño'

DOLLYWOOD

Dolly Ann Carvajal

NEWS about **Nino Muhlach**'s troubled marriage has been lingering for quite sometime now. His wife is a charming Ilongga named **Edith**, who's 10 years younger than his 31.

Edith struck me as a simple, typical charming Ilongga. She had quite a calming effect on the ever rambunctious Onin. The last time I saw Onin and Edith together was late last year during the anniversary of "S" magazine. The couple said they had been trying to locate me because they wanted to invite me to their son's baptism. Onin was the picture of a proud father. He kept rambling on about the joys of fatherhood, and Edith sat beside him smiling.

When I first came across the news about their marriage being on the rocks, I said to myself that it was just a phase. Onin, or any Muhlach for that matter, has always been a girl magnet. And their "significant others" must learn to contend with that if they want their relationship to work out.

I prodded Edith to finally break her silence. She was hesitant at first but when I assured her that it was not going to be a write-up against Onin, she agreed.

The young wife said, "I still love him. I have forgiven him already but I'm not yet ready to take him back. It's not because of the girls. There are other personal reasons. We both just need time."

Edith is overwhelmed by the all-out support of the Muhlachs. "I really love his family. Without them, I don't know what I would do. They really love our 2-year-old son **Sandro** (Allesandro Martino). His dad provides for all of our needs."

It's been five months since trouble started brewing in paradise, but Edith decided to move out with their son only last month. "Onin and I talked last month," she said. "He was crying. He wanted me and Sandro back. I'm not closing my door. I just need to learn to love myself first and our son."

Her message for Onin?

"He's lucky to have me and Sandro."

No doubt, Onin's heart knows that too well. His mind may have taken a detour, but in time his heart will help him find his way back home.

Her own medicine

KRIS Aquino is said to be enraged over that much ballyhooed episode of "Kool Ka Lang," in which her paramour **Joey Marquez** is the star and her ex-live in lover **Phillip Salvador** was a recent guest. I missed the show, but from what I gathered, the focus was on a sword called *kris* over which Joey and Ipe were fighting. If you would take it at face value, you could just dismiss it as another gimmick which should not be taken seriously. As the title of the show suggests, just be cool about it. But since Kris is emotionally involved, then you can't blame her for feeling slighted. Joey must have read the script beforehand—although he resorts to ad libs most of the time—so he could have informed Kris if he felt that her sensibilities couldn't take it. The mere fact that both he and Ipe played along meant it was no big deal to them.

Kris minced no words on "Morning Girls" after that episode was shown. She was obviously referring to Ipe when she said she wanted to kill somebody and wished that he wouldn't run for public office anymore.

Whatever happens, Ipe is still the father of her son **Joshua**, so it would be better if she kept her nasty remarks about him to herself. Kris is fondly called as "Taklesa Queen" because of her tactless comments, which often floor her guests. Now that "Kool Ka lang" has somewhat made a tactless move involving her name, maybe Kris must learn how to take a dose of her own medicine. Or is she a bitter pill to swallow?

Personal

BIRTHDAY cheers to my cool condo neighbors **Jing Capati** and **Glenford Kalaw**. Thanks for watching over me even if you didn't know it's a 24-hour job.

For feedback, e-mail friends_at_dsquare@yahoo.com

Women come on strong in new films

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

FEMALE stars in Hollywood complain that male actors get to top-bill the biggest film productions, but recent developments indicate that the situation may be changing. Stars like **Julia Roberts**, **Nicole Kidman**, **Reese Witherspoon**, **Angelina Jolie**, **Renee Zellweger** and the "Charlie's Angels" sexy troika are headlining major projects, and their starrers are clicking with viewers.

In "Down with Love," Renee Zellweger does a **Doris Day** and plays the effervescent and fashionably feminist author of a book that encourages women to treat sex the way men do. When women worldwide are emboldened to challenge the sexual status quo, a male journalist and womanizer (**Ewan McGregor**) tries to put her down by making her fall in love with him, and thus proving that she's a fraud because all she really wants is love and marriage.

"Down with Love" is an old-fashioned romantic comedy with a twist that revives the style of filmmaking during the Technicolor age of the Doris Day-**Rock Hudson** comedies. Not only does it take place in the 1960s, but it was also written and designed to look like it was made then, with split screens, enormous sets, stock footage and '60s-type music.

Jolie reprises her cool and feisty adventurer-crime fighter role in the sequel to "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider," "The Cradle of Life." To do justice to her very physical role, she had to work out a lot to tone up her body, so she could live up to the production's action requirements—horseback riding, jet skiing, rapelling, stick fighting, water skiing, etc.!

As the sequel opens, Lara is on a seemingly innocuous deep-sea dive when she stumbles across the key to finding Pandora's Box. The action is set in exotic locales, from an active volcano in East Africa and the bustling streets of Hong Kong, to the deck of an underwater vessel at Victoria Harbor.

As a bonus, Lara is given a romantic interest in this sequel.

In "Miranda," a stylish comic romance, **Christina Ricci** is an exotic con artist who launches into an unlikely romance with a dull librarian. She is also caught in a game of cat and mouse with two schemers who are after her for sex and money. **John Simm**, **John Hurt** and **Kyle Maclachlan** co-star.

TV's "Lizzie Maguire" is now a movie, so its teen star, **Hilary Duff**, has a bigger screen to brighten. Along with her TV pals, Gordo, Kate and Ethan, she packs her bags and lives *la dolce vita* while on a class trip to Italy.

Gordo and Lizzie's relationship moves to a new level when Paolo, an Italian pop star, links up with Lizzie.

'Bawat Tao'

TANGHALANG Ateneo opens its 25th repertory season with "Bawat Tao," the first of the season's four productions centered on the morality play. Running from Aug. 7 to 23 at the Ateneo's Fine Arts Exhibition Hall, "Bawat Tao" is the Filipino translation of "Everyman." In this classic medieval morality play, Everyman receives a summons from Death to make an accounting of his life. He seeks companionship in his journey to the grave, but few fulfill their promise to go with him. He eventually realizes that one's personal qualities and good deeds are what really matter. Call 426-6001, local 5056 or 5331.

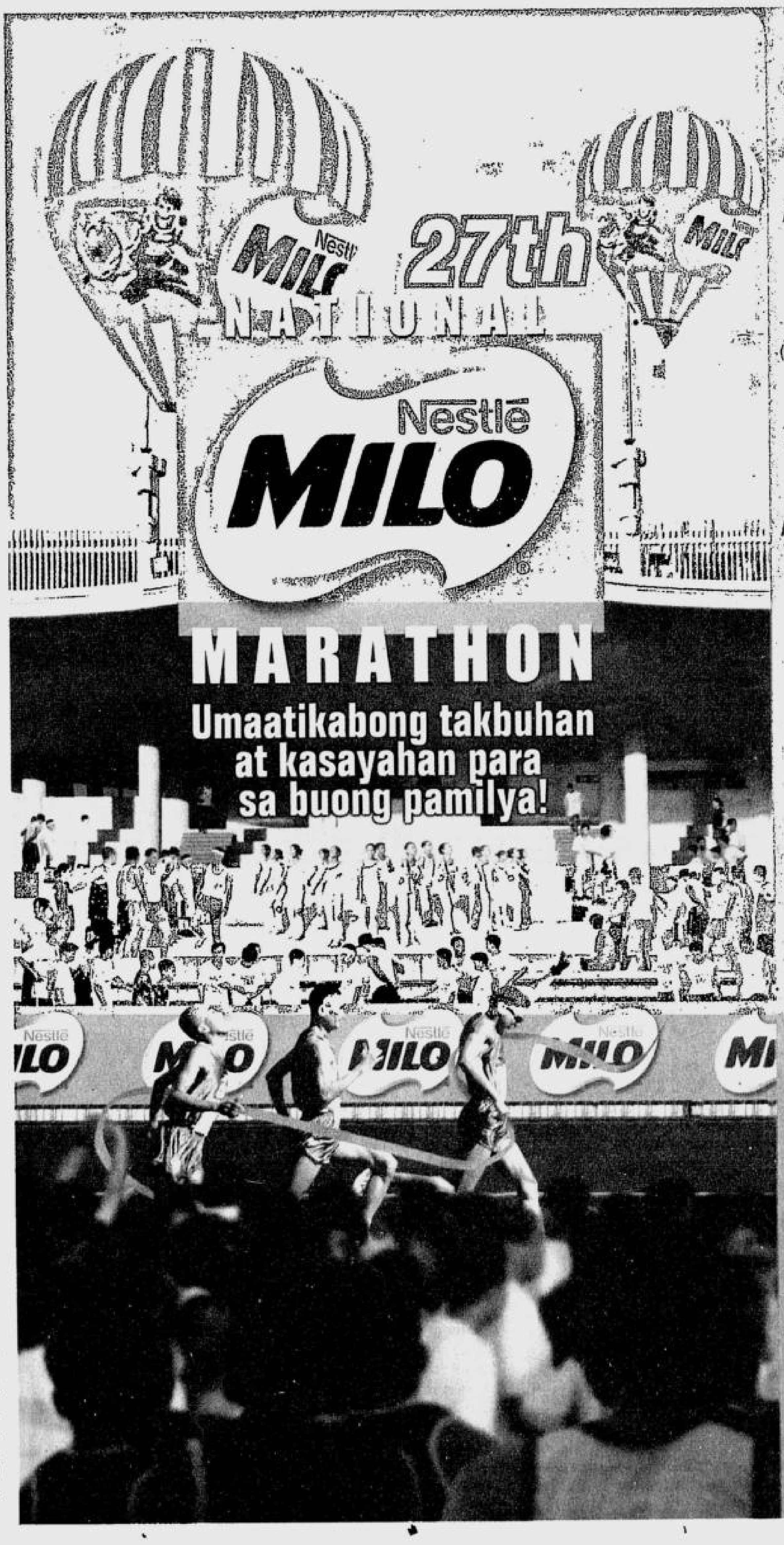
'Gentlemen'

SEAN Connery plays Allan Quatermain in "The League of Extraordinary Gentlemen." Set in Victorian England, the film centers around a team of extraordinary figures culled from great adventure literature who are called upon by Queen Victoria to stop a villain bent on turning the nations of the world against each other. But, when the members of the League are themselves of questionable heroic nature, can they be trusted to bring order to the chaos?

'Remote Control'

CHANNEL [V's] "Remote Control" is a one-hour program that features hit songs covering a wide range of music, plus requests, dedications, and on-air chats with the VJs and visiting artists.

"Remote Control" is hosted by VJs **Amanda Griffin**, **Paula Malai Ali**, **Sarah Tan** and **Cindy Burbridge**, and is available on the Destiny and Dream Cable services. It is telecast every Sunday at 11 a.m., with repeats at 6 p.m. on Wednesday and 5 p.m. on Saturday.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2 nights of Lani M at Onstage

SHOW TIME

LANI Misalucha has been around the music scene longer than most people realize. She was a lounge singer in hotels and bars, a band member and commercial jingle vocalist, a multiplex singer for the hits of Barbra Streisand, Toni Braxton, Celine Dion, Mariah Carey and her idol Whitney Houston.

Record executives took notice and gave her that well-deserved break in 1996. Her very first single, "Somebody Warm like Me," was a hit. She became a perennial favorite as song interpreter of composers in the Metropop songwriting competition. She won the best singer award in the 1998 Asia Song Festival.

More feats came at a fast clip. Her second album was a gold record. She played a lead in the all-Filipino musical "Rama at Sita" which earned critical raves. She was Best Female Pop Performer in the Katha Awards and Best Female Recording Performer in the Awit Awards in the same year.

In 2001, she earned more raves for the "Love Concert" at the Araneta Coliseum, with Zsa Zsa Padilla and Freestyle. That same year, she performed in her major solo show before a sold-out audience, also at the Big Dome.

Last May, Lani invaded the US with Basil Valdez at the City Center Pavilion in Reno, the San Diego Copley Symphony Hall and the Pasadena Civic Auditorium in Los Angeles. In the charity concert "Dazzling Divas" in Singapore, she performed with singing stars from Malaysia, Thailand and Indonesia.

Back home, she recently volunteered to do a show called "Change a Life," to raise funds for free medical treatment for impoverished children.

This July, Lani gives a special treat to her fans with two nights at Onstage and with her latest studio album, both entitled "Loving You," from the Minnie Ripperton song. The song has a special significance for Lani because she sings it while lying down on stage, and it always earns her a standing ovation.

Maxi-Media International features Lani at Onstage in Greenbelt also to showcase choice cuts from the new album, including its carrier single, "Tila," and covers of "Tag-araw, Tag-ulan" and "Muntik nang Maabot ang Langit." Musical director is Gerard Salonga.

"Loving You: Lani Misalucha Onstage," a production of Maxi-Media and Primeline Inc., is on July 25 and 26 at 9 p.m.

Tickets for P800, P1,100 and P1,350 (plus 3 percent ticketron charge) are available in all Ticketworld outlets in major National Bookstore branches and Robinson's malls (896-5610), Tower Records in Makati and Alabang, Onstage Ticketron and Maxi-Media ticketing office (551-8999 and 551-7777).

MISALUCHA

FRANCINE Prieto, Robbie Tan's latest girl

Seiko's new find is sexy 'with class'

SHOW STOPPER

FROM Seiko Films—the outfit that launched the careers of classy, beautiful sexy stars like Gretchen Barretto, Priscilla Almeda, Rosanna Roces and Cristina Gonzales—comes Francine Prieto. An AB Psychology student at a private college in Metro Manila, Francine has done print, commercial and ramp modelling for some of the country's top designers. She also modeled in the Asian circuit.

Francine is of mixed Filipino, Chinese and Spanish parentage. She joined the Binibining Pilipinas contest, and placed among the 10 semi-finalists. She was one of the top five candidates in a prestigious modeling contest.

Seiko Films boss Robbie Tan has signed Francine to a four-year, eight-picture contract. The first of her eight Seiko movies, "Liberated," is showing soon.

In "Liberated," she co-stars with commercial-model-turned sexy actor Christian Vasquez, and sexy star Diana Zubiri. The movie is directed by Mac Alejandre, with the multi-awarded Romy Vitug as cinematographer.

Says Tan, "I think she's the kind of sexy star that today's viewers are looking for, a sexy star with class."

TWO IN A ROW
Gerry Cornejo of DZRJ-AM wins his second Most Outstanding Radio Commentator award after a nationwide monitoring survey by the Consumers Union of the Philippines. The award was presented to Cornejo by the CUP president, Commissioner Chino Marquinez, in the recent CUP annual awards night at the Westin Philippine Plaza. Cornejo is host and co-producer of "KKK sa RJ," an interactive socio-civic-political and variety prime time radio program aired over dzRJ-AM (810 kHz), Monday to Friday, 7 to 9 a.m. The program is also an active advocate of a good, clean and healthy lifestyle. "KKK sa RJ" is sponsored and supported by Glaxo Smith Kline, Mediakom, and Kraft Foods Philippines.

Aiza, Nina and Jimmy together at The Studio

AIZA Seguerra rides high on the acoustic wave now sweeping the music scene as she performs in "Real Music, Shared Notes," on July 25, 8 p.m., at The Studio at the Marikina Riverbanks complex.

Joining Aiza are soul siren Nina and acoustic balladeer Jimmy Bondoc.

"Real Music, Shared Notes" is produced by Goldwater Productions, a new production outfit that aims to raise the standards of concerts and other events. Founder Benjie Suzara vows, "'Real Music' will just be the start of a series of well-crafted productions that will bring quality entertainment within the reach of music-loving Filipinos."

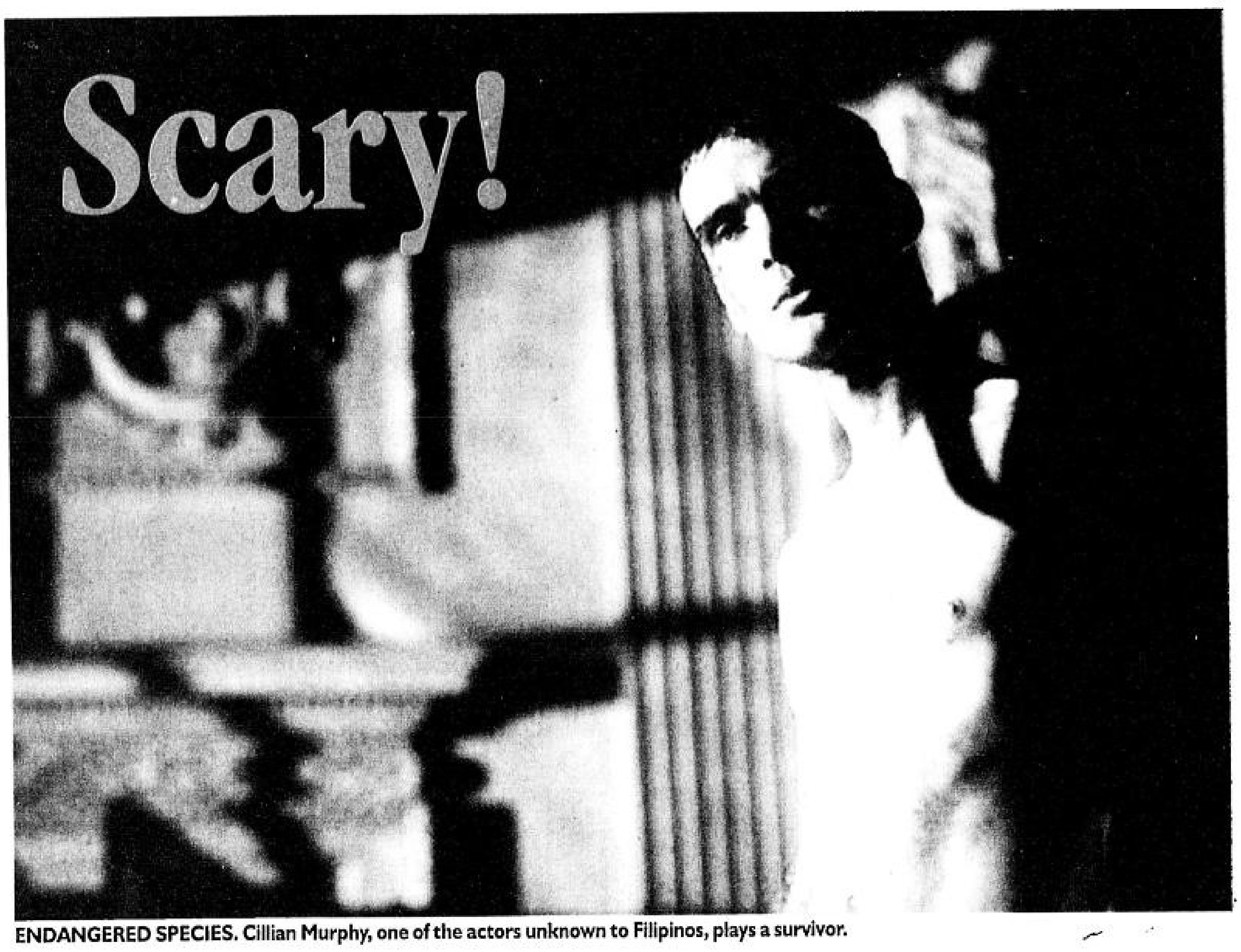
The Studio will be transformed into Aiza's private room, with Nina and Jimmy dropping in on her and jamming with her. Musical back-up will be provided by a pool of talented session artists led by Ric Mercado.

Tickets for P500, P400, P300 and P200 are available at Goldwater Productions, Units 5-6, J&L Bldg., 1251 Edsa, Greenhills, San Juan.

For inquiries, call 724-5508, Benjie at 0917-792-6337, or Monique at 0917-811-0897.

SEGUERRA

Scary!



ENDANGERED SPECIES. Cillian Murphy, one of the actors unknown to Filipinos, plays a survivor.

By Ruben M. Cruz Jr.
Contributor

REVIEW

HOW fast can you change a flat tire if your life depended on it?

Normally, I wouldn't be bothered by such a question, but after watching "28 Days Later" I cannot put it aside even if I tried.

Using a post-apocalyptic scenario in which a deadly virus has seemingly wiped out most of humanity (actually just most of Britain), the film explores a whole new chilling level of terror, where doing the simplest things can turn out to be a nerve-wracking ordeal.

As I walked to my car after the day's last screening, I couldn't help but notice that the night seemed darker than usual, and the parking lot, uncomfortably emptier.

"You coward," I told myself, just before looking over my shoulder to check if anyone was following me. It was obvious I was still in the world of "28 Days Later," a world where, as one of the film's heroes says, "just staying alive is as good as it gets," and a moment's hesitation could cost you your life.

The film opens with a prologue of the outbreak. A team of animal rights activists break into a dark and creepy lab full of chimpanzees. Most of the chimpanzees are shrieking and bouncing against their cages, but one of them is quietly strapped to a chair, with a horde of electrodes attached to his head and body. We see that the lone chimp is being made to watch scenes of civil chaos on several TV screens, including three seconds worth of "Edsa Tres" footage.

Massacre begins

Before the team could go about releasing the chimps, one of the lab scientists discovers the intrusion. He attempts to call security, but is overpowered. With panic written all over his face, he begs the team not to release the animals.

"You don't know what you're doing," he warns. The chimps, he says, have been infected with rage.

Whether rage is indeed the name of a virus or just the violent, uncontrollable anger that we know doesn't matter much; nor does it make a difference. As soon as one of the activists opens a cage, the massacre starts. Instead of gratefully meeting the warm embrace of their human liberators (like we've seen in other films), the chimps start ripping out throats and spewing blood.

People infected with the chimps' blood turn into mad, murderous monsters themselves.

Within hours, the contagion has spread from the lab into the cities and the countryside, and after 28 days (hence the title) it has poisoned almost everyone in Britain, so that the very few who are left uninfected are being hunted by those who are.

Survivors

Jim (Cillian Murphy), a bicycle courier, met an accident shortly before the outbreak and was in a coma during the whole time the virus was taking over the country.. Miraculously, he wakes up in his hospital room, safe and uninfected. He has no idea what happened. But as he walks out of the deserted hospital into the equally deserted streets of London, he begins to get the picture.

He enters a cathedral and finds what seems like hundreds of bodies piled on top of each other. Then, he makes the mistake of saying, "Hello?" and discovers that not everyone in the pile is dead.

A pack of "infected" immediately go after him, lusting after his uncorrupted flesh. He's rescued by a couple of uninfected survivors, Selena (Naomie Harris) and Mark (Noah Huntley), and they tell him about the horrible events that took place while he was sleeping.

They hook up with two more survivors, Frank (Brendan Gleeson), a London cabbie, and his daughter, Hannah (Megan Burns), who inform them of a recorded radio transmission from the military offering sanctuary to all the uninfected. Being as it is their only source of hope, they set off for the promised sanctuary on a long and perilous road trip in Frank's cab, not knowing that there are more dangers ahead than what the infected have to offer.

Overwhelming tension

Every once in a while, a horror films comes along that can scare the jesus out of you. "28 Days Later" is one such film. It's the kind of film that can make you all jumpy at strange sounds and shadows, and whose terror suddenly seizes you on those after-midnight trips to the john.

Director Danny Boyle ("Trainspotting") instills clinical and unrelentingly brutal characters in this film that makes you just want to close your eyes, but you just can't, because the film is so engaging. Even during the quiet moments, the tension remains overwhelming.

There is also a resounding lack of sentimentality that cuts through the death and chaos, as a desperate bunch of people fight to stay alive.

An important factor here is the nature of the "rage" virus itself. It takes only about 20 seconds for one who's infected to turn into a homicidal maniac. As the machete-wielding Selena tells Jim, she would hack him in a heartbeat if she finds out he's infected, and she goes on to demonstrate this declaration shortly after by hacking her best friend who has been bitten by an infected.

Unknown actors

The ominous threat of an army of infected contrasts cruelly with the ponderings and discussions of the survivors trying to cling to whatever humanity is left in the world. More than the growing number of infected constantly trying to devour them, the greatest fear among the survivor, it seems, is the absence of hope. Thus, even the ulterior motives of the ragtag militia, in the end, seem less evil.

I hardly know any of the actors, as most of them have done their work in British cinema, and only a few films from that part of the world manage to end up here. I guess that complements the credibility factor of the film, in the same way its anonymous actors made people believe that "The Blairwitch Project" happened to real people.

Here, the Everyman quality of the actors also adds to the believability of the script, written by Alex Garland who also wrote the novel "The Beach," which Boyle also filmed.

So what about "28 Days Later" would make you think about how efficient you need to be in changing a flat tire? Just go see the film. And check your spare in the trunk before you do.

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See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2988, Series of 2003.

DID YOU KNOW...

It wasn't a celebrity premiere, just an early evening screening of "Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle" at Alabang Town Center (ATC) a couple of Sundays ago, but it was a star-studded screening. One eyewitness spotted among the moviegoers such stars as **Heart Evangelista, Franco Laurel** and couple **Padim Israel** and **Rio Locsin** with their daughters.

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IMPOSTOR **PG13** 11:40,1:40,3:45, 5:50,7:55,10:00	**BANGKOK HAUNTED** **R13** 1:20,4:00, 6:40,9:30	**TERMINATOR: RISE OF THE MACHINES** **PG13** 12:20,2:45,5:10,7:35,10:00

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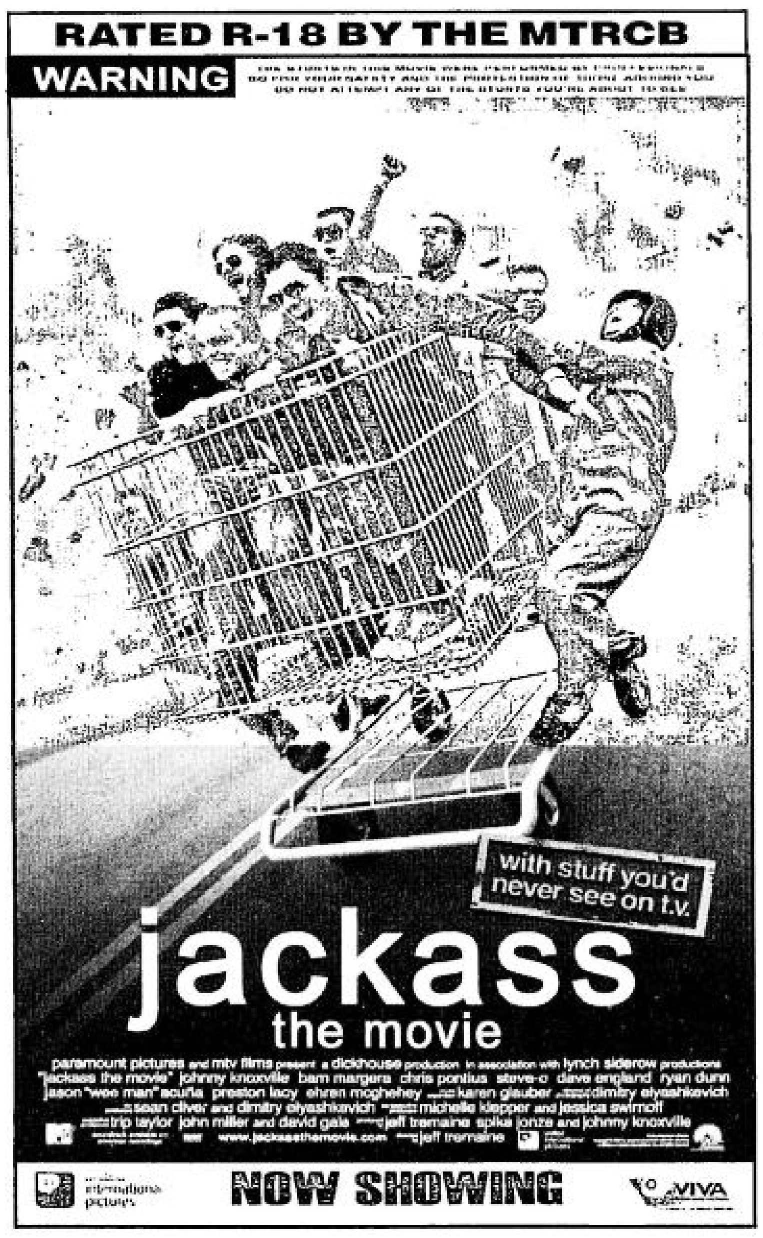

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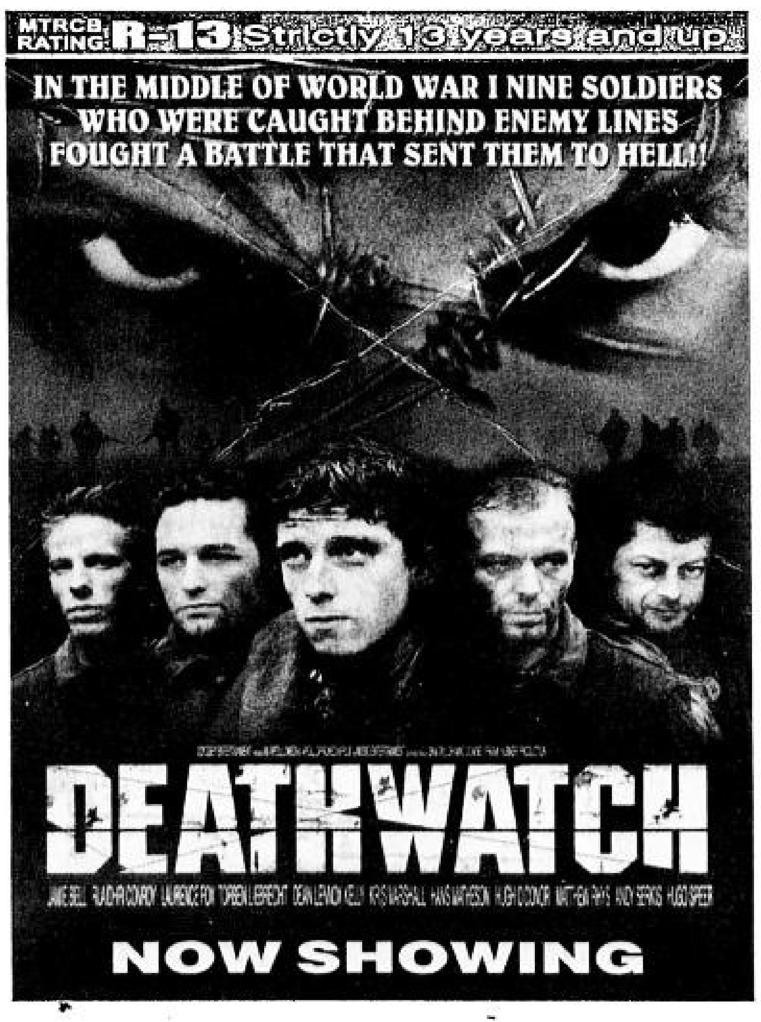

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TERMINATOR 3 RISE OF THE MACHINES

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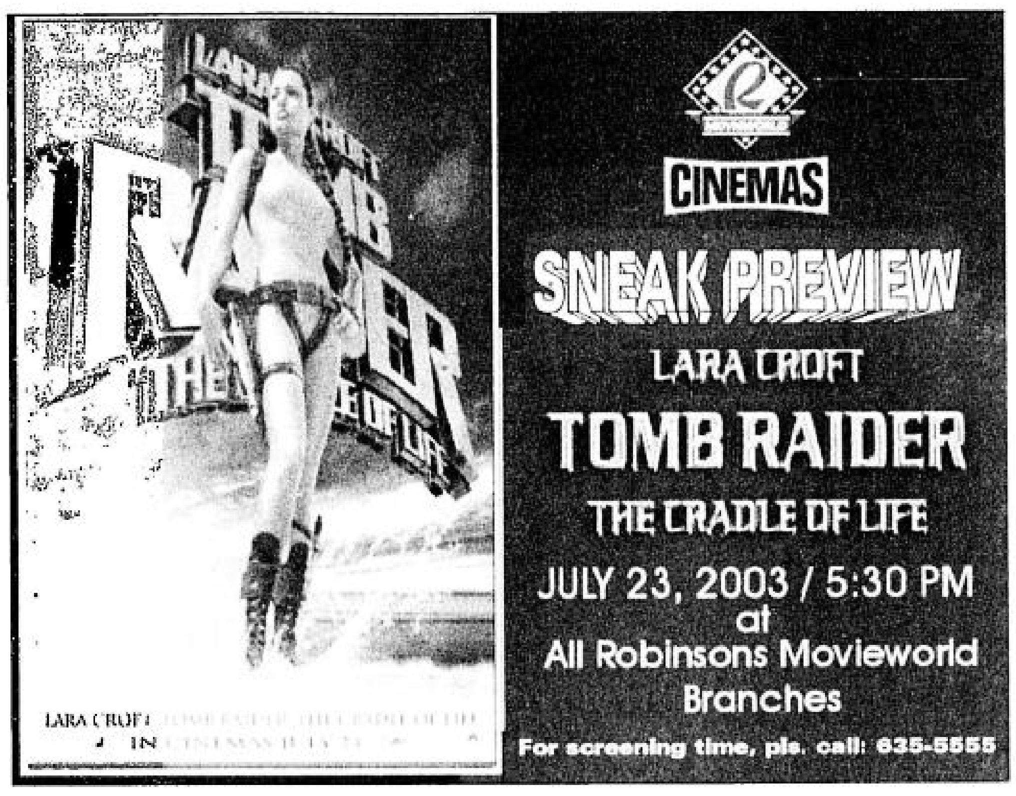

CINEMAS

SNEAK PREVIEW

LARA CROFT

TOMB RAIDER

THE CRADLE OF LIFE

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Miranda was screened at the 2002 Sundance Film Festival.

MTRCB Rating: **Restricted 18 (R-18)**

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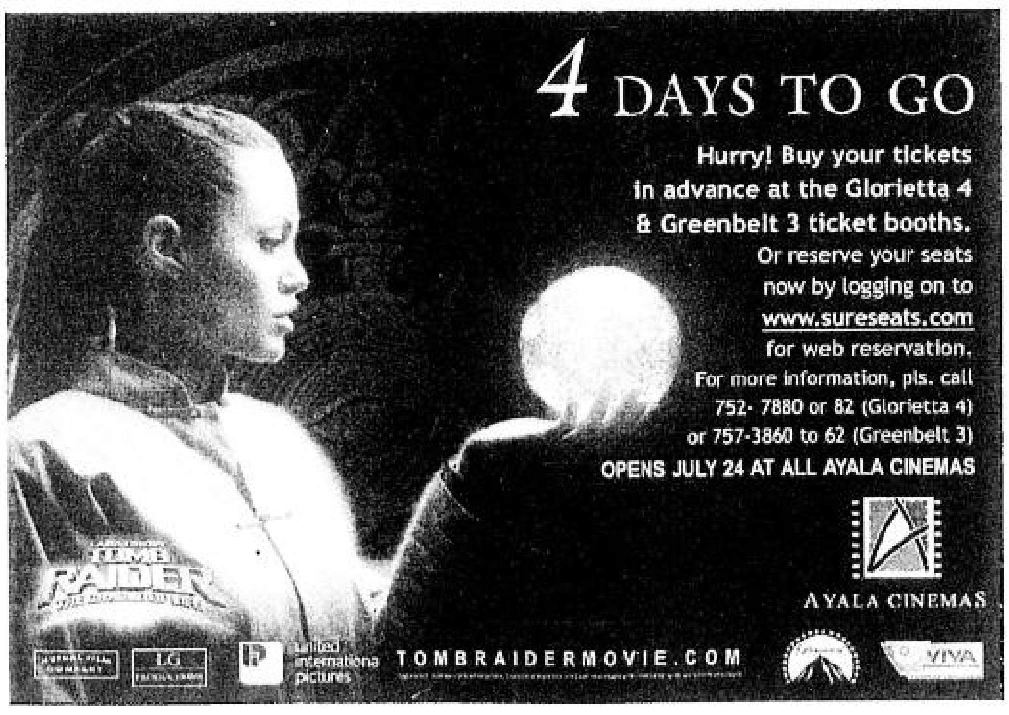

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Araneta Center ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7

Ali 1	JACKASS THE MOVIE
Ali 2	MASAMANG UGAT
Ali 3	TERMINATOR 3
Ali 4	BANGKOK HAUNTED
Ali 5	LIZZIE MCGUIRE
Ali 6	DOWN WITH LOVE
Ali 7	IMPOSTOR

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THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	SEX BOMB / RAMPADORA
ODEON	X-MEN 2
ODEON-2	BUKID AY BASA / KASIBULAN
ROBEN	BOLD STAR
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	SPY / LEGEND OF CROCODILE
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	UNFAITHFUL CUNCUBINE/KANA 2
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	BERTUD NG PUTIK
REMAR	X-MEN 2
REMAR-2	BOLD STAR
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	TERMINATOR 3
B	HULING BIRHEN SA LUPA
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CINEMA-2	CLOSED FOR RENOVATION
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 10 19)
CINEMA-1	DUMB & DUMBERER
CINEMA-2	HUNTED
CINEMA-3	BIGLANG LIKO
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	TERMINATTOR 3
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	CHARLIES ANGELS 2
CINEMA-6	TUKAAN
CINEMA-7	HOT SPOT
CINEMA-8	MASAMANG UGAT
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	DOWN WITH LOVE
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	TERMINATTOR 3
CINEMA-11 (SDDS)	LIZZIE MCGUIRE
CINEMA-12	JACKASS
CINEMA-14	IMPOSTOR
CINEMA-15	BANGKOK HANUTED
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
CINEMA 1	CHARLIE S ANGELS 2
CINEMA 2	DARKNESS FALLS
CINEMA 3	A MAN APART
CINEMA 4	28 DAYS LATER
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARANAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

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CALLING on all youth bands with members aged 16 to 35 years old: If your band is composed of two or more musical instrumentalists and one or more vocalists (minimum of three and maximum of 10 members per band), you can be a part of "Band-ing sa Riverbanks!" a concert to be held on Sept. 13 at the amphitheater of the Riverbanks Center in Marikina City.

All you have to do is submit a demo tape or CD of your original inspirational compositions for peace on or before July 27 to Banding sa Riverbanks c/o Jesuit Music Ministry, Loyola Heights of Studies, Ateneo de Manila University, Katipunan Avenue, Loyola Heights, Quezon City.

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Contact the Campus Ministry - Ministry for Youth Affairs at 735-3390, 736-6588 or 736-6589, or visit their office at 2486 Legarda Street, Sampaloc Manila.

SHOW TIME

Nora Aunor start . . .

From page C2

He said the MMFFP is letting the producers of the 10 selected movies decide which seven entries would be shown on the film festival opening on Christmas Day and which remaining three would be shown starting Jan. 1, 2004.

"They can do it either by raffle or by point system," Tieng said.

He said the box-office success of the movies in last year's second batch— "Lastikman" and "Spirit Warriors 2"—made the New Year's Day playdate appealing to producers.

According to the selection committee's announcement, Star Cinema's entry, tentatively titled "Milan" since it is set in that Italian location, topped the list with a 94.99-percent rating. Line producer Marizel Samson said director Olivia Lamasan and stars Claudine Barretto and Piolo Pascual would start shooting in the Philippines this month and would move to Milan in August.

Next on the list is the controversial Regal Films movie, "Mano Po 2."

Third is Basfilms/United Production's "Crying Ladies," starring Sharon Cuneta, Hilda Koronel, Angel Aquino, Eric Quizon and Ricky Davao.

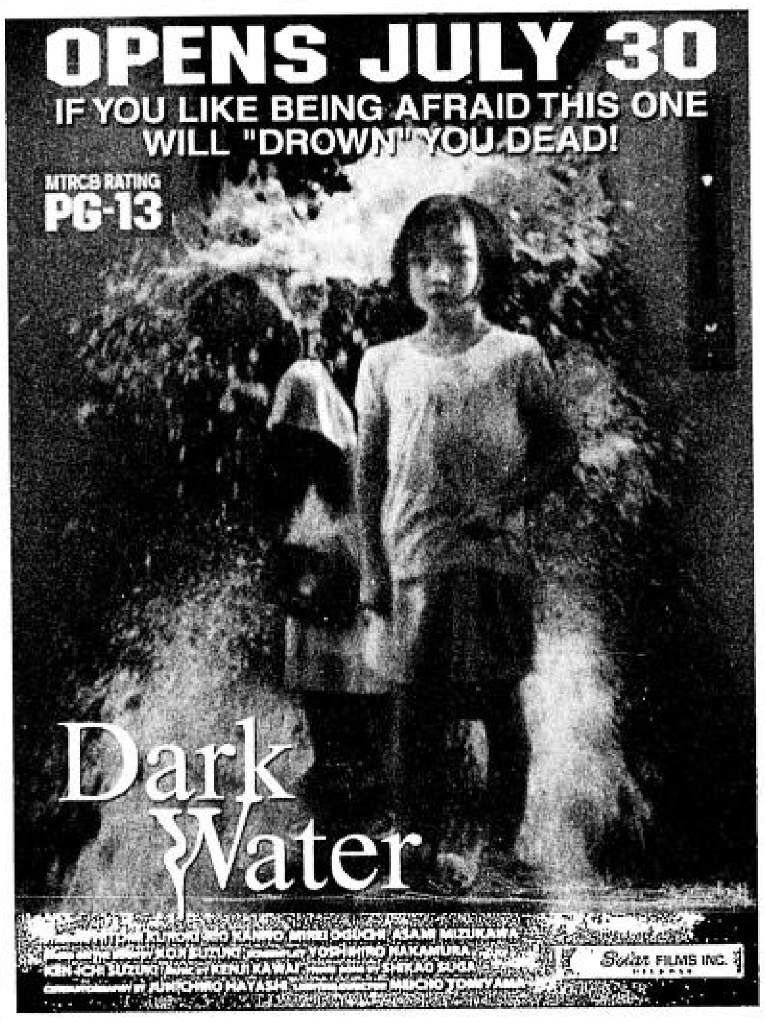
Fourth is Octoarts Films' sequel to the hit "Lastikman." It's been renamed "Fantasticman" and will star Vic Sotto and sexy beauties Ara Mina and Cindy Kurleto.

Another high profile film, "Filipinas, May Isang Ina," is fifth. Esteemed US-based actress Lolita Rodriguez, earlier reported to star in the movie, wouldn't be part of the Viva Films project anymore.

Rounding up the magic 10 are Gil Portes' film on SARS, "Homecoming," Teamwork Productions; Jose Javier Reyes' horror-suspense flick, "Malikmata," starring Rica Peralejo, Canary Films; Jeffrey Jenturian's "Bridal Shower,a follow-up to his award-winning "Tuhog," starring Rosanna Roces, Rufa Mae Quinto and Diana Zubiri, Seiko Films; Cirio Santiago's retelling of Mars Ravelo's superhero tale, "Captain Barbell," with Jolina Magdangal and Ogie Alcasid, Premiere Entertainment; and MAQ Production's launching vehicle for young comic Vhong Navarro, "Gagamboy," directed by Erik Matti.

Movie projects entered by comedy king Dolphy's RVQ Productions and action star Ronnie Rickets' Rocketts Productions were also excluded from the chosen 10.

Imus Productions, owned by action star and Video Regulatory Board Chair Bong Revilla's family, was the only one that withdrew. Its entry would have been the prequel to last year's winner for visual effects, "Agimat."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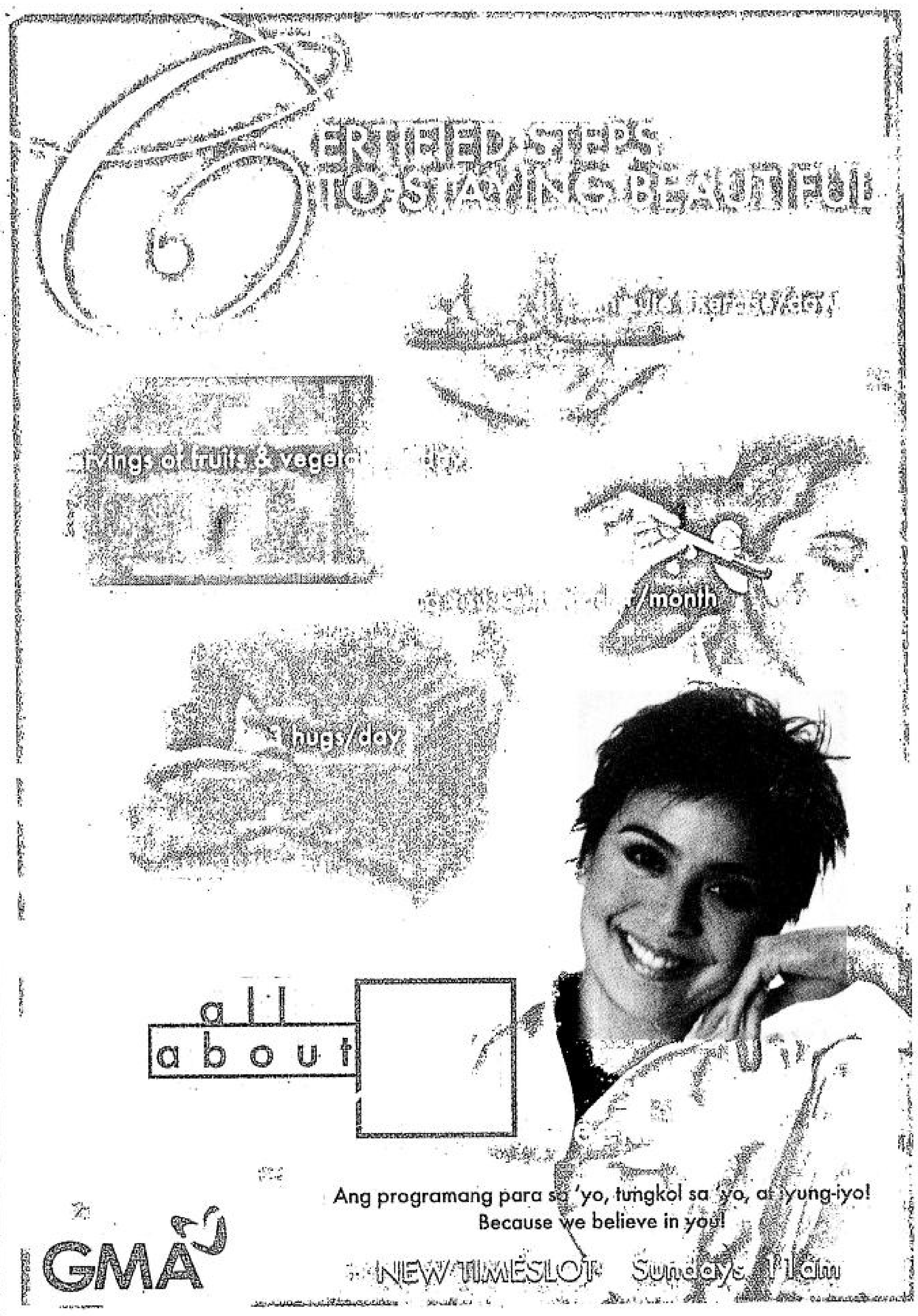
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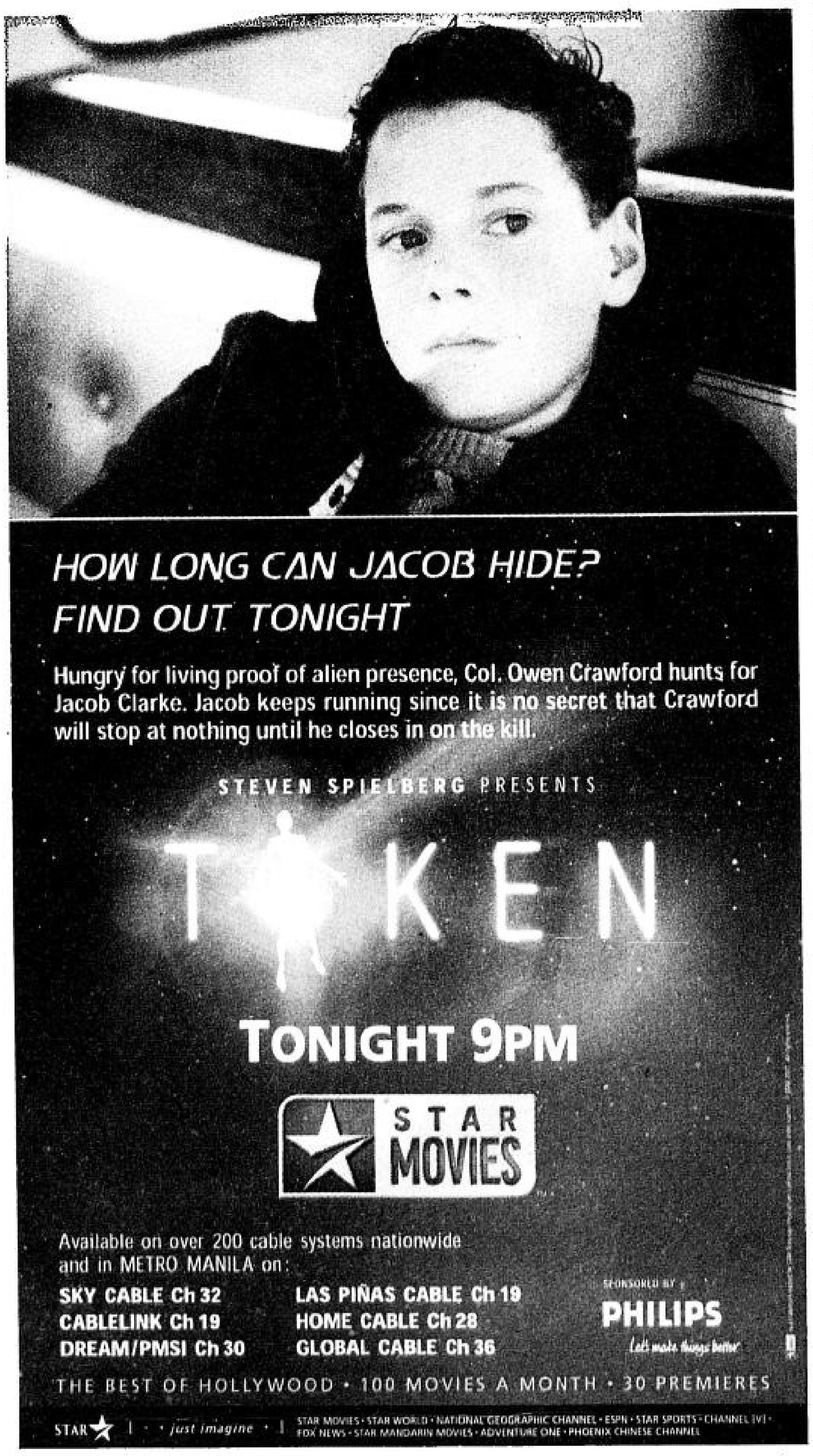
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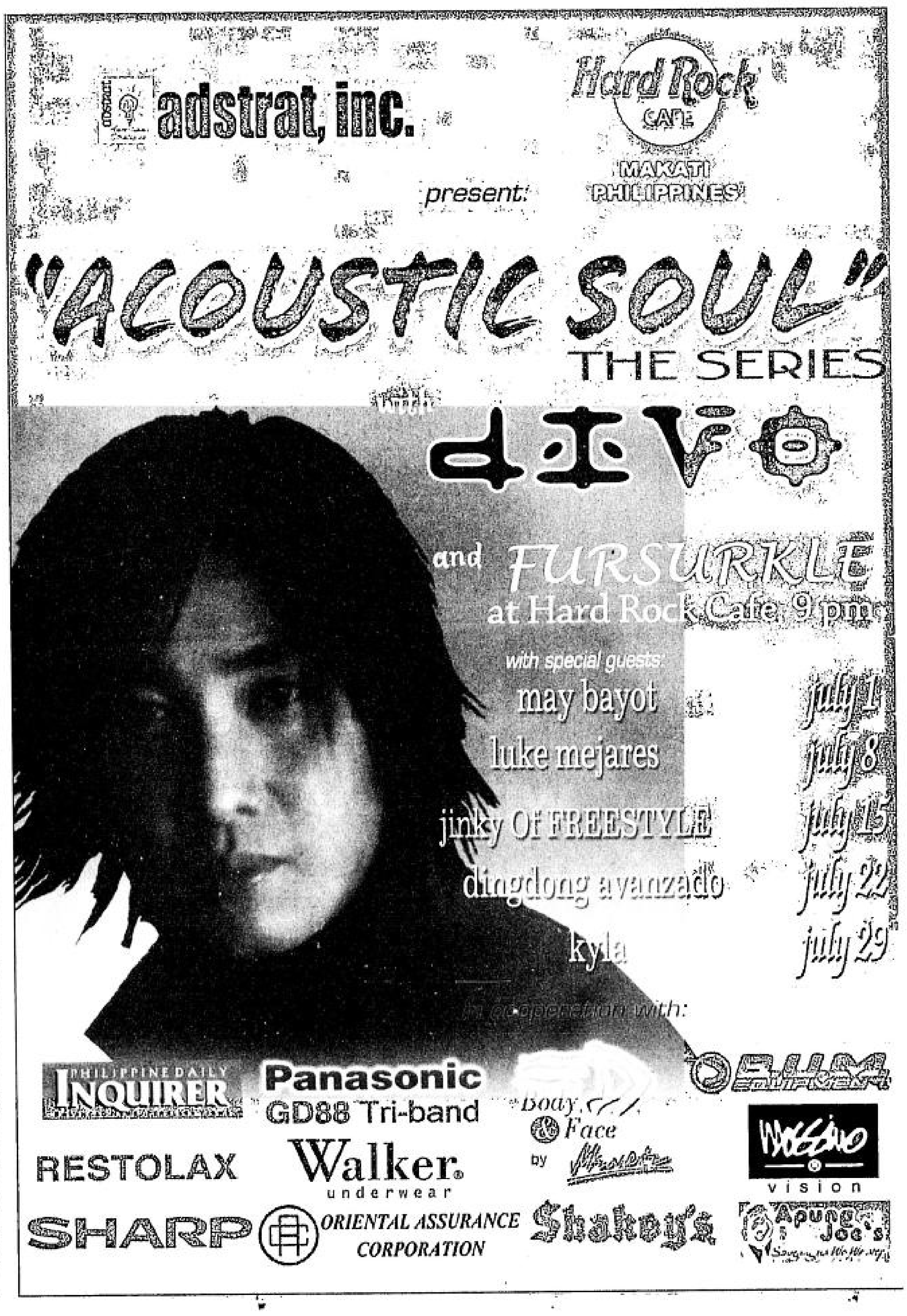
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Editor **Chelo Banal-Formoso**

THE FACADE of Dior at 1 Peking Road is an architectural masterpiece with a brilliant mix of glass, metal and light.

Dior finds new Asian address, sans SARS

The new Hong Kong store of the Paris fashion house is the biggest in Asia

By Kitty Go
Contributor

LAST month, with SARS still terrorizing Hong Kong, Taiwan and mainland China, Dior Asia-Pacific began a series of events to drum up the opening of Dior's biggest and newest store in Asia. Parties in Seoul, Taiwan, Singapore, Bangkok, Jakarta and Kuala Lumpur strengthened the presence of Dior in Asia even further with the presentation of its Fall 2003/4 ready-to-wear by John Galliano for Dior and the house's latest must-have, the "Hardcore Dior" handbag collection.

Celebrations in the sky

In Hong Kong, where the social circuit completely fizzled out because of SARS, the two-night back-to-back festivities held by Dior Asia-Pacific was welcomed not only by Hong Kong's elite but by the press who gave the events three consecutive days of coverage.

"Dinner and Dancing in the Sky," the opening celebration on June 5, was an exclusive invitational dinner for 100 and an auction to benefit "Project Blossom," an educational fund to benefit children from SARS-infected families.

The party, with the theme "Black, White and Diamonds," after the Hardcore look for fall, was held atop One Peking Road, Hong Kong's newest luxury fashion development in Kowloon. With 360-degree views of the city, guests feasted on caviar, foie gras and lobster prepared by the Grand Hyatt accompanied by a vintage Rose 1993 from Dom Perignon. They were entertained by Asia's most famous performers and got a preview of John Galliano's fall collection for Dior.

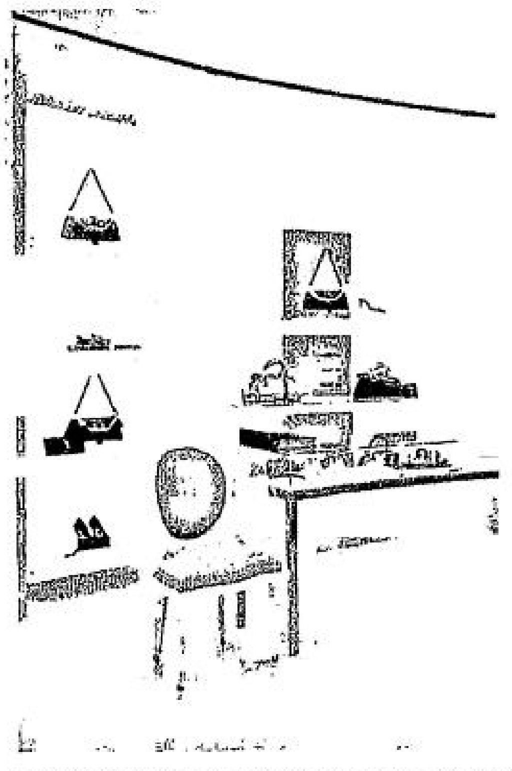
The second evening, "Party in the Sky," was a late-night dance party with celebrities flown in from Korea, Malaysia and China. Originally meant for 400, the party with star DJ Joel Lai ballooned to 750 people, making it the "Party of the Year" before it even started.

Hong Kong revival

The parties may have been signs of Hong Kong's return to living up to its tagline, "The City of Life," but the bigger testament to Hong Kong's reassuring future was the line of at least a hundred people in front of Dior 1 Peking Road in Tsim Sha Tsui.

Dior created 100 numbered "Limited Edition (no. 1-100) 1 Peking Road" Hardcore Dior handbags exclusive to the new boutique

DIOR/ D6



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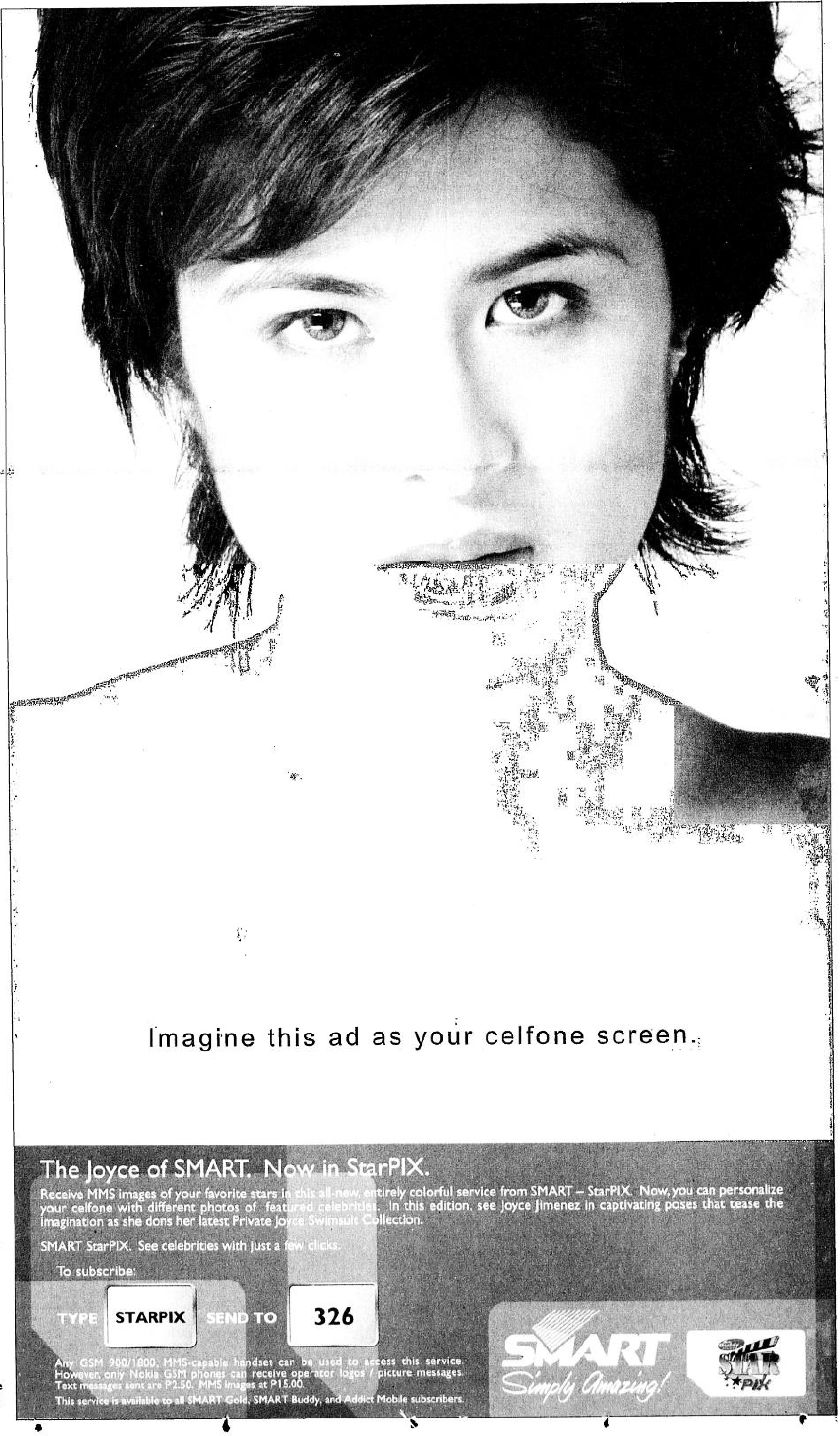

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The 'Meteor Garden' *hurricane*

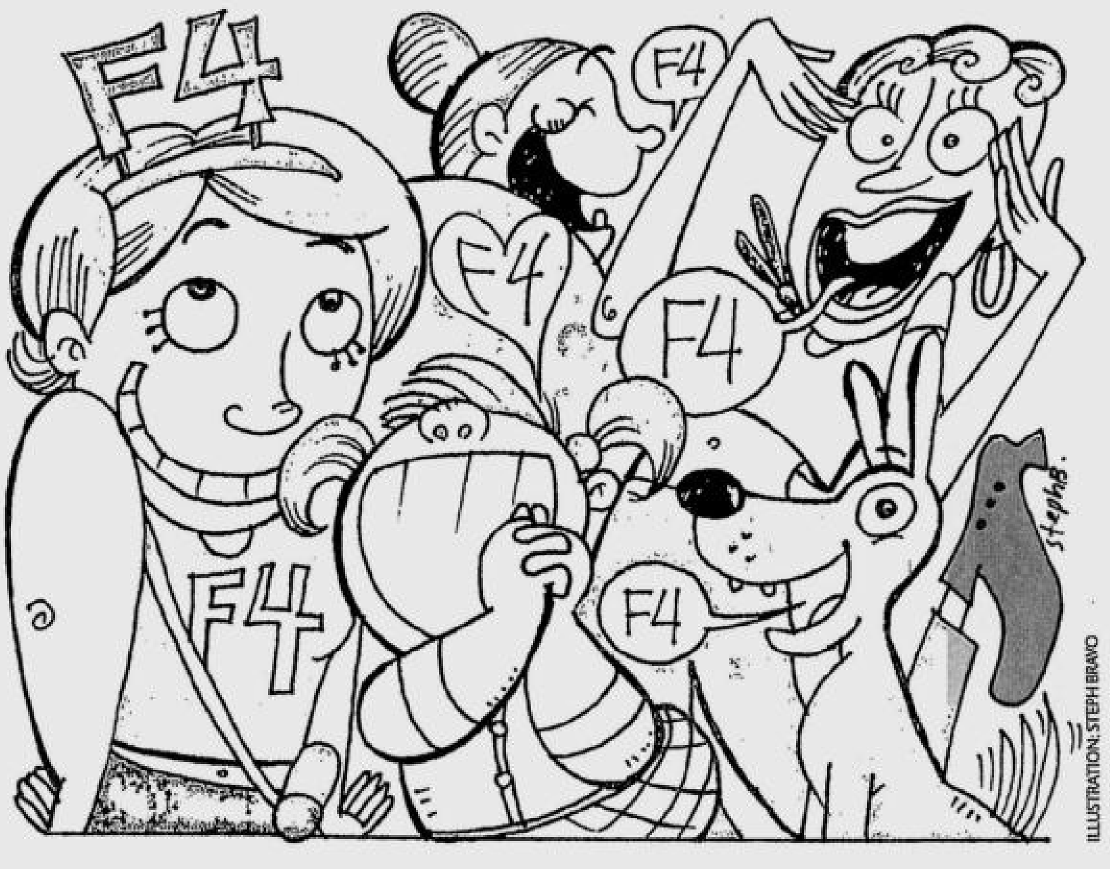


ILLUSTRATION: STEPH BRAVO

By Jose Javier Reyes
Contributor

ALL right, I must admit: At first, I didn't get it.

All of a sudden, everyone is talking about F4: It is as if the whole world turned upside down because of this group of spunky Taiwanese crooners who look like they are in dire need of a blow dryer and a drug-free hairstylist. Oh, no! Not another boy band!

As early as mid-2000, I have said to myself that I have reached my quota of boy bands who all look and sound alike, differentiated only by their group names that really sounded like brands of hair gel or industrial-quality condoms.

After Kevin Anderson, Nick Carter, Ronan Keating, and now Justin Timberlake, just how much more dosage of this male hormone shot can I still take?

And, putting it quite bluntly, none of these poster-boy gents can even come close to the dangerous androgyny of David Bowie, Sid Vicious or Mick Jagger, or the truck-driver machismo of Bruce Springsteen. Not even the incandescent sweetness of Barry Manilow, right? Now I am revealing my age.

But then, what is it about this collection of lanky Sino lads in the soap opera "Meteor Garden" that has really generated such havoc?

Suddenly everyone has this urge to run to Chowking and master the art of eating with disposable chopsticks. Why is it, all of a sudden, the whole world stops right before "TV Patrol" and every other breathing Pinoy within the metropolis and thereabouts needs to rush to the nearest functional television set to see this juvenile Chinese pop opera?

Rumors have it that even workers in television stations go into a somnambulistic state at exactly 5:30 p.m., glued to monitors stationed all over their offices, to await the next chapter of the excruciatingly sweet lives of our *singkit* heroes.

Was it not horrid enough to have the Chicanos possess our television screens for too long a number of years? Often, I would sigh with exasperation each time I chanced upon all these *Kastilaloys* with their Latino naris and authentic chestnut-brown hair sputtering Tagalog like they celebrate Linggo ng Wika in even the most remote barrio in Mexico.

Living pinups

Now they are being imported from Taiwan—packaged to look like a cross between Sloane Rangers and Valley Kids on a diet of syrup with angst for dessert. The actors also resemble living pin-ups for beauty salons specializing in rebonding, resurrecting, relaxing and cellophane treatment for hair.

I wanted to know firsthand what the brouhaha was all about. It was not hard to find the show, considering that it is now showing seven days a week like Kris Aquino. There is a Rewind edition just in case (by some act of God or man or both) you missed an all-important episode.

And it is even harder to forget there is such a show because you see the faces of the marvelous four as you plod down busy streets where their faces are immortalized on cheap glossy paper and sold as posters—perhaps to line walls, closets, lockers, refrigerators or any smooth surface that can tolerate scotch tape.

You even hear their songs blasting from radios, the stereos of your next-door neighbor or the jeep positioned right beside you during the usual major traffic jam.

Okay. Judging from what I saw and have seen, the four boys are your basic *tsinito* cute—with one or two cuter than the others, depending on your definition of the adjective also used to describe Chihuahuas and poodles. Depending on who you think is the best-looking of the lot, I still think Diether Ocampo looks better and has a better body.

I find nothing truly exceptional about the way they photograph, because I have seen better specimens studying in La Salle Greenhills or Xavier School hanging out in Greenbelt.

All about hair

Then I figured out that it really has got something to do with the hair.

I caught an episode of a local magazine show where two postpubescent boys, dressed in department-store hip-hop, undergo a salon transformation. The process of contrived evolution went as far as going through an instructional on how to cut and treat one's hair to look like either a freshly electrocuted capybara or a porcupine suffering from megalomania.

The hairdresser, professional and exhibiting an unusual degree of sincerity, gave very clear instructions on how to cut, style, iron then perhaps spray the hair with aerosol starch in order to achieve that spiky oh-so-current look.

He proudly announced that it was called animé.

My God, I exclaimed to myself, the kids now all want to look like AstroBoy or Pokémon?

The freshly-transformed boys looked at the mirror with such swelling awe and pride, unable to believe they can actually look that way.

One declared shyly, "*Hayan. Kamukha na ako ng* idol *kong si* Vaness."

I quietly whispered, "*Oo. Ngayon baka ibigin ka na ng babae... Pero ano naman ang sasabihin ng mga magulang niya 'pag nakita niya ang buhok mo?*"

I also had to take a look at the rival *tsinovela* showing in the other station to find out the extent of competition. When it comes to the hair department, definitely that show is a hands-down winner in the "Ano Ba 'Yan?" department.

And you do not really need 20/20 vision or, much less, be a judge of the grand finals of Ginoong Maharlikang Pilipino to give pronouncements that the stud puppies of "Meteor Garden" have better stylists.

Nuke disaster survivors?

The entire cast of the rival program looks like they were around Chernobyl when something went very wrong with the nuclear plant: It is either that, or they all decided to take a bath in a rain of oxygen peroxide. Everyone's hair is that strange shade of yellow-orange closely resembling that of the furry coat of a golden retriever or a tabby cat kept by an obsessive-compulsive spinster.

Whereas the "Meteor" boys have a tendency to dress like Asian counterparts of Abercrombie and Fitch models, the MVP tykes resemble *jologs* hanging out somewhere in the periphery of Cubao.

If the boys were not all that terrific, could it be the leading ladies of the shows? Definitely not. Although the heroine of the series is no pushover, she does not even come close to a Maggie Cheung or a Zhang Ziyi.

You would think that if you cast her in a local soap opera, she would bag the role of Jolina Magdangal's fiery best friend or Kristine Hermosa's confidante *kababata*. But definitely not someone you would want either James or Jericho to end up smooching with.

And it wasn't certainly the acting or the singing you hear on the soundtrack! Yeah, sure: kids are kids... especially when they are acting like kids in a show meant for kids. But definitely the level of cheesy-ness exhibited here does not even come close to tongue-in-cheek camp such as that immortalized by the whole cast of our own cult classic "Temptation Island."

Somehow, what we have here is a well-produced, beautifully photographed confectionery with all the nutritional value of food-colored pink meringue.

Déjà vu!

So I figured out that it must be the story. So, *sige*.

Employing full concentration and the discerning eye of any critic who belongs to any of the organizations that give awards to media products in this country, I sat through three episodes of the Wundershow.

By the second episode, I was disturbed... undergoing an uncomfortable déjà vu realizing that I have seen this story before, I have heard these lines before, I have been here before!

Of course, that could have been facilitated by the fact that I have heard these voices before—those over-enunciated, highly aspirated method of dialogue practically copyrighted by Pinoy voice talents.

But there is really absolutely nothing new with the plot! What you have is a lauriat of rich-boy-loves-poor-girl, two-cute-boys-and-poor-girl-love-triangle, buddy-buddy-girlie-girlie-friendship sort of leitmotif that could have given a headache to any literary theorist who tries to explain it.

Aside from the fact that now we have Taiwanese actors instead of Chicanos, nothing much has changed.

So, can this possibly mean that the overwhelming response is mainly due to the Pinoy's taste for Hoisin sauce in lieu of guacamole? Or is it because, for once, you have a soap opera that employs a much younger group of actors, thereby capturing the lifestyle of a substantial percentage of the TV audience taken for granted or forgotten by the creative people in local networks in designing labyrinthine plots for our soaps?

Yes, it must be that: It is the milieu and the lifestyle—performed by Asians but definitely presented in a mutant Western mode.

Now I really begin to wonder. Is it about time I started watching "Buttercup?"

The Experts Speak Up!

Ma. Clarissa Fortuna, M.D. ENT
Head and Neck Surgery
Head
Voice and Swallowing Laboratory
The Medical City

What to expect when you visit your ENT

Whenever we have health problems and our symptoms persist or worsen, it is always best to seek the advice of a medical specialist. ENT specialists use their knowledge of the anatomy and physiology of the ear, nose, throat, and head and neck region to systematically evaluate and determine the specific cause of our symptoms.

Once the causes are known and the symptoms are described, a management plan tailored to our individual problems and needs may be prescribed.

The patient who is well informed will also generally be more highly motivated to follow the necessary therapeutic regimen.

PATIENT HISTORY

Patients with throat problems will have any of the following symptoms: sore throat, difficulty in swallowing and/or speaking. If any of these complaints are found, they should be characterized in detail.

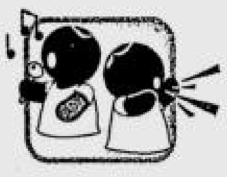
The following outline is a practical guide for inquiry into your complaints. Read on to know what to expect at your ENT doctor's office.

SORE THROAT

- How many times do you have sore throat in a month? In a year?
- What is the duration of each episode?
- Is it accompanied by fever, cough, difficulty in swallowing or breathing, or voice change?
- What treatment has been given in the past?
- Do you smoke or drink alcohol?

HOARSENESS

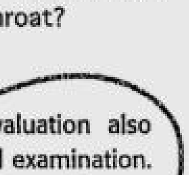
- When did you first notice a change in you voice quality?(weeks, months, years)
- Was the onset gradual or sudden?
- Was your voice weak or completely gone?
- Have you been hoarse before? If so, when and how often?



- Was the hoarseness preceded by a cold or sore throat?
- Is there pain and discomfort in breathing when you speak?
- Do you smoke or drink alcohol excessively?
- Have you been shouting, singing or overusing your voice?
- Have you been through any recent surgical procedure?

MOUTH SORES

- Where are the sores located? On the lips, gums, tongue or lining of the cheeks?
- How long have you had the sores?
- Have you had this type of sore before?
- What medications do you presently take?
- Are there other accompanying symptoms like fever or sore throat?



Because systemic illness commonly produces ENT problems, evaluation also includes your current and past medical history and general physical examination. A variety of diagnostic procedures such as laryngoscopy, blood tests and x-rays may also be requested to assist in the diagnosis of your problem.

Proper medical care requires a thorough examination prior to diagnosis and initiation of treatment. A visit to the doctor once an ailment is experienced is helpful. He will always be ready to help you. This way, you can be certain that you will always be in good health!

PHILIPPINE SOCIETY OF
OTOLARYNGOLOGY HEAD AND NECK SURGERY
A health update from the throat care experts, PSO-HNS and Bactidol.

Hexetidine
Bactidol

Philippe Starck meets with Steltz executives

STELTZ International's William and Cannen Stekon (second and third from left) met designer *extraordinaire* Philippe Starck (left) at the recent opening of the Flos showroom in Hong Kong. Starck designs lamps for Flos, which Steltz exclusively distributes in the Philippines through its shop at The Podium.

Starck is known for his interesting and eclectic design style. He started his career as an interior decorator for prominent personalities such as François Mitterand. He soon began designing buildings and everyday objects such as lamps, toothbrushes, door handles, cutlery, candlesticks, kettles, knives, vases, clocks.

His interior architectural designs can be seen in the Peninsula Hotel restaurant in Hong Kong, the Teatron in Mexico, the Hotel Delano in Miami, the Mondrian in Los Angeles, and the Asia de Cuba restaurant in New York. His works are also showcased in museums in Paris New York, Chicago, Kyoto and Barcelona.

His many awards include Designer of the Year, Grand Prix for Industrial Design (the Oscar for Design), the Officier des Arts et des Lettres, and more.

Starck's designer lamps are just among the many high-end lamp and lighting products that Steltz offers customers. It also carries the works of Achille Castiglioni, Tobia Scarpa, Afra Scarpa, Rodolfo Dordoni, Antonion Cittero, Jasper Morrison, Marc Newson, Marce Sadler and Konstantin Grcic.

The shop opened last April 2002 at the third level of The Podium. Call 632-0967 and 633-8313.

La Sallians celebrate silver anniversary of spiritual community

THE Search In retreat in La Salle Greenhills (LSGH) will mark its silver anniversary on July 26.

The 25th anniversary celebration is dubbed "In Our Skin" to underscore the fact that the experience remains with the participants for life.

Started in the school year 1978-79 by then La Salle Bro. Emilio "Boy" Villarosa, the Search In aimed to teach the values of Christian living beyond the traditional Religion instruction in the classroom.

More than 2,000 La Sallians have joined the retreat in the 25 years that it has been conducted. Participants range in age from 16 to 41.

In essence, Search In is a spiritual retreat for third-year students. For three days, participants explore and share their feelings on matters that concern them most, normally, self, friends and family. Through group activities and self-reflection, each one begins to have a better understanding of his self, his relationships with others, and where God fits into all this.

The retreat is special to those who take it because they experience it when they are just beginning to grapple with issues of identity, acceptance, and purpose.

DINGDONG Avanzado

GARY Valenciano

"Search In has been effective in attaining its objective that it has remained virtually unchanged in the past 25 years," says Louie Aguinaldo, who has become a driving force of the Search In community for the past 23 years. "And it has spread to different schools."

The three-day retreat creates a strong communion among participants and open interaction without judgement and bias. The sense of brotherhood keeps the alumni coming back.

The students and alumni themselves started in 1984-85 replica programs in De la Salle-Bacolod, St. Scholastica's Bacolod and De la Salle-Zobel in Alabang. The program was also conducted in other schools—St. Theresa's-Cebu, Assumption-Iloilo, St. Mary of the Woods-Makati and St. Benilde Bacolod. In La Salle Academy-Iligan, it was first introduced by Boy Villarosa but faltered when he transferred to LSGH.

Since Search In's values of brotherhood extend beyond the organization, it has been involved in various outreach and socio-civic activities.

The community granted scholarships to the Adult Night High School of LSGH from the mid-'80s to the early '90s. It organized relief operations during the 1990 Central Luzon earthquake and the 1991 Pinatubo eruption. It has also participated in the National Movement for Free Elections Operation Quick Count since 1984.

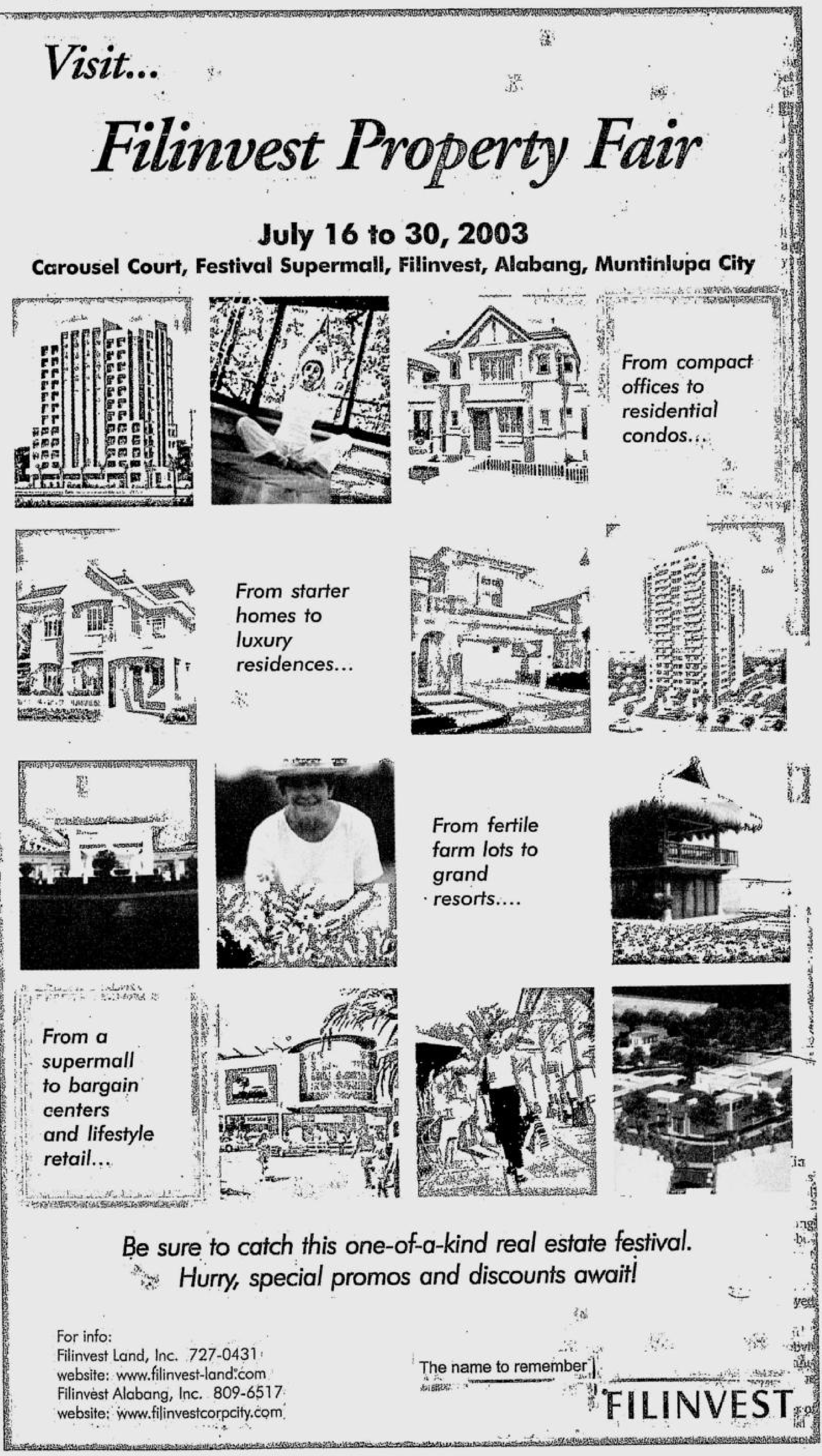
Search In LSGH alumni include Sen. Ralph Recto, Rep. Ace Barbers, Philippine Basketball Association commissioner Noli Eala, and celebrities Gary Valenciano, Ogie Alcasid, Dingdong Avanzado, Wency Cornejo, Raymart Santiago, Epi Quizon, Carlo Orosa, Anthony Pangilinan and David Celdran.

During its anniversary celebration, the community will launch the Yes to Life Foundation to institutionalize its outreach activities as an integral part of the Search In experience for students and alumni.

The foundation's socio-civic activities will focus on the education and psycho-spiritual development of the youth consistent with La Sallian values.

The reunion and foundation launch will begin with a Mass at 6 p.m., followed by a dinner show featuring many of the community's entertainment personalities, like Gary V., Dingdong, and Wency, at the St. Benilde's Hall of LSGH.

Tickets will be available at the gate. Search Inners may call or text (0917) 810-1082 or (0917) 529-5706 for details.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If you've been doing all of these things everyday, then you're on your way to a healthy and energetic life. Keep it up!

MULTIVITAMINS
ENERVON
FOR
ENERGY

KC, POWERHOUSE TEAM IN NEW pH care TVC

In what could be the most ambitious TV commercial ever created locally for a personal care product, the new pH care TVC puts together the talents of KC Concepcion, the "Moulin Rogue" & "Matrix" scenic artist and a world-renowned award-winning director.

Nov
pH care.
For eve

The talent:
KC Concepcion

No longer just the daughter of Megastar Sharon Cuneta-Pangilinan, KC has grown to be today's hottest teen icon.

No wonder pH care chose her to represent today's generation. "Tapping KC was part of our commitment to encourage and educate teens on the need to use the right feminine wash for daily hygiene," says **pH care Brand Manager Cheche Soberano**. A pH care user herself, KC willingly took on the job.

KC with some of the talent extras

From the briefing stage until the end of the shoot, KC's enthusiasm and energy never waned. In fact, in the underwater scene which was shot at dawn, KC was the last one to leave the pool. No complaints whatsoever. "She was very eager to learn and to do things the right way," says **choreographer Christine Blando**.

KC getting ready for her portrait shot

Determined to learn as much as she can, she would every now and then ask a barrage of questions from the director. Keenly interested in filmmaking and directing, KC would stay after her rehearsals to observe in the casting and sit-in on soundtrack meetings.

KC's manager Sandy Santa Maria and make-up artist Fanny Serrano having a chat with KC

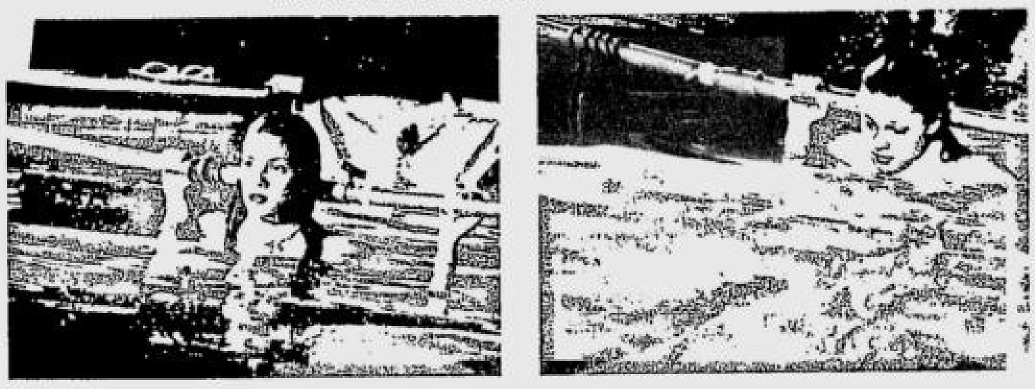
Through it all, KC's professionalism, humility and fresh talent have won the accolade of everyone on the set – from the director to the humble utility man.

"I'd like to say that working with KC has been absolute joy," says director Franco Marinelli. "Point the camera, throw the lights on her, she's exceptionally beautiful, exceptionally talented and undoubtedly one of the potentially greatest talents the Philippines will ever see," adds the director.

The director:
Franco Marinelli

If you're part of production & your heart is not into it, Franco Marinelli is definitely not the director for you.

The perfectionist that he is, Marinelli will squeeze every inch of energy and creative juice out of you.


KC in between takes for the underwater scene

After earning his masters degree in fine arts, majoring in photography & painting, Marinelli won recognition through a number of solo painting exhibits. In 1992, he became a music video director. Afterwhich, he shifted to directing commercials both in Australia and abroad.

Marinelli accepted the job because of the challenge. "Having to do one that's for feminine hygiene makes it all the more challenging," he

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I grew up knowing what's good and
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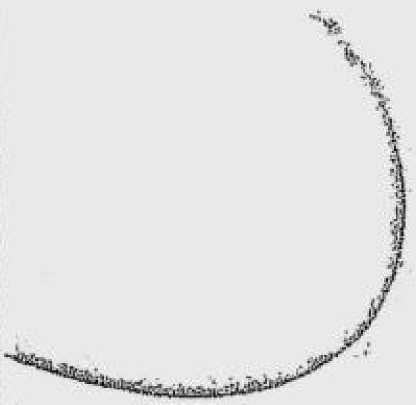
I'm better able to take care of myself.
I know the whole truth.
That's why I know pH care
is the right one for me.

I am OPEN to the truth.



pH care
pH care
INTIMATE WASH
Pink Passion
BALANCED
pH care
IMAT
ower
BA

day feminine care.

Set engineer for the shoot, Peter Collius, in a discussion with director Franco Marinelli

The set engineer: Peter Collius

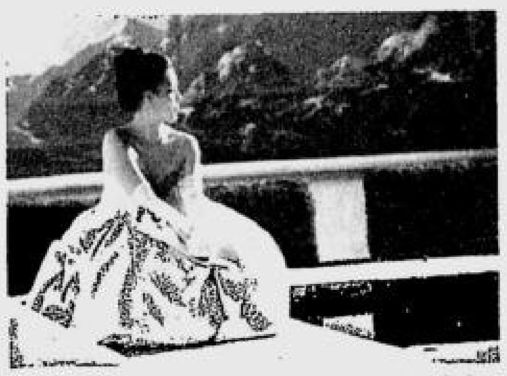
Massive door reminiscent of Russian art nouveau style, vast field of flowers backdropped by azure sky and soft clouds, breath-taking topiary garden amidst the Alps. Why not? After all, we have the legendary Peter Collius as set engineer.

The scenic artist behind **"Moulin Rogue," "Matrix,"** and soon-to-be released **"Peter Pan,"** Collius was invited to the project by director-friend Franco Marinelli himself.

Each backdrop was painstakingly hand-painted by Collius, sometimes using his shirt or jeans as preliminary canvass.

Combined with the genius of **Geoff Hall, the director of photography (D.O.P.)**, the eye of Marinelli, the talent of KC and the help of the whole production team, they were able to breathe life into the lavish sets.

For someone with many accomplishments, Collius is a man of few words. That leaves us then to just watch the new pH care material and be enthralled by its beauty.



A pensive KC waiting for the camera to grind

The lovely endorser in the meadow scene

says. "The minute I saw the script, I started pulling references," he adds. Incidentally, the TVC coincides with the first anniversary celebration of pH care.

Marinelli had big visions for the new pH care TV commercial. And with pH care's objective of targeting teens as well,

Marinelli's experience as an MTV director makes him the perfect choice.

The whole commercial is surreal but a bit romanticized. Each scene was carefully studied, crafted and given a "painterly" feel. There was hardly any computer graphics involved. Almost everything was handmade which makes this project something that the viewer would like to see again and again.

Marinelli was very definite about what he wants -- from the camera lenses, costumes, make-up, set, choreography down to the casting of extras. In the end, everyone was tired but very happy with the result.

"I am thankful that both the advertising agency (Basic) and client (Unilab Consumer Health) gave me the creative freedom I needed to accomplish things…For me it's a dream job. I think this is one of the best commercials I've ever done so far…I'd also like to say that for this TV commercial, I have worked with the best talents the Philippine film industry can offer," he finishes off.

Peter Collius gives Production Designer Adrian Pacoma a surprise lift after the hectic 2nd day shoot

All photos in this article taken by Edith Esguerra

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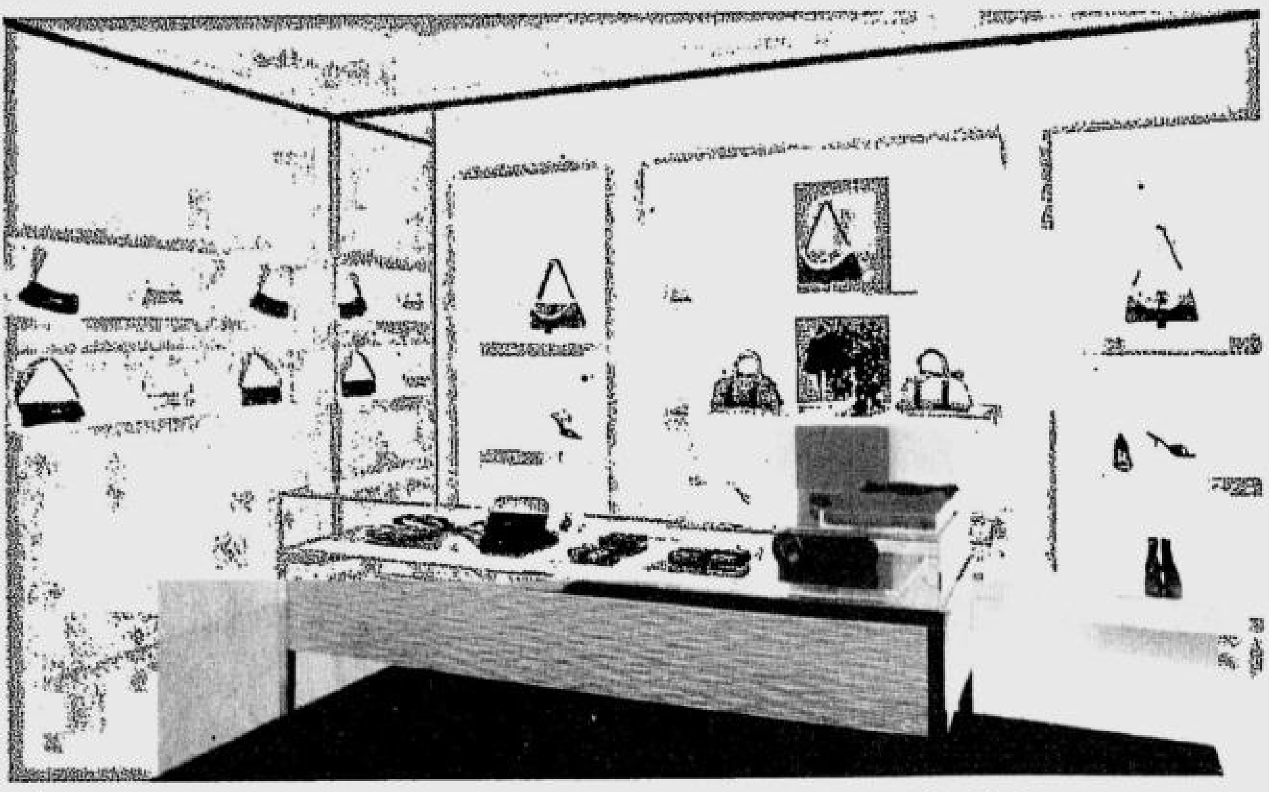
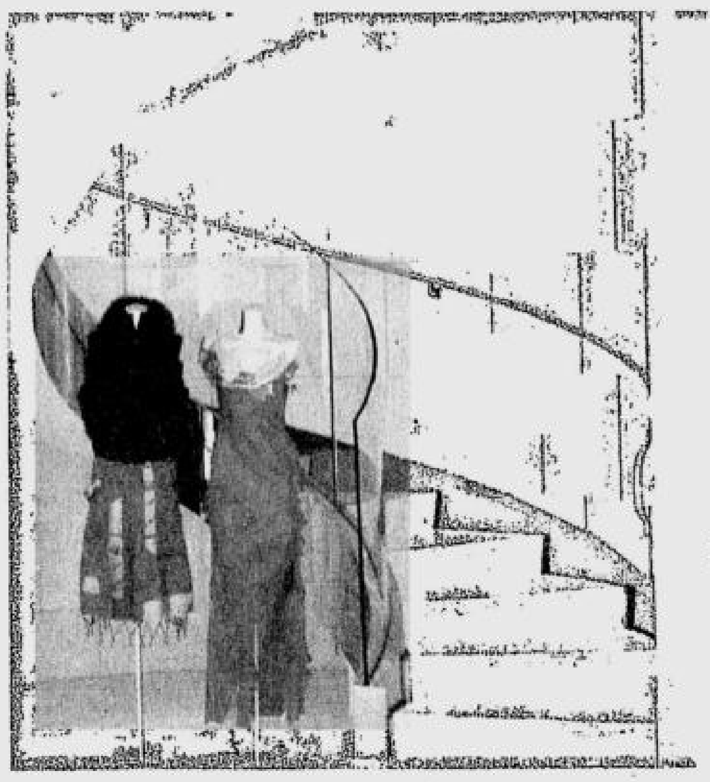
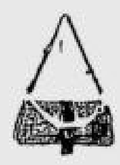
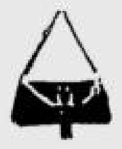


THE NEW fashion mecca will offer the latest and most comprehensive selection of Dior's collections.

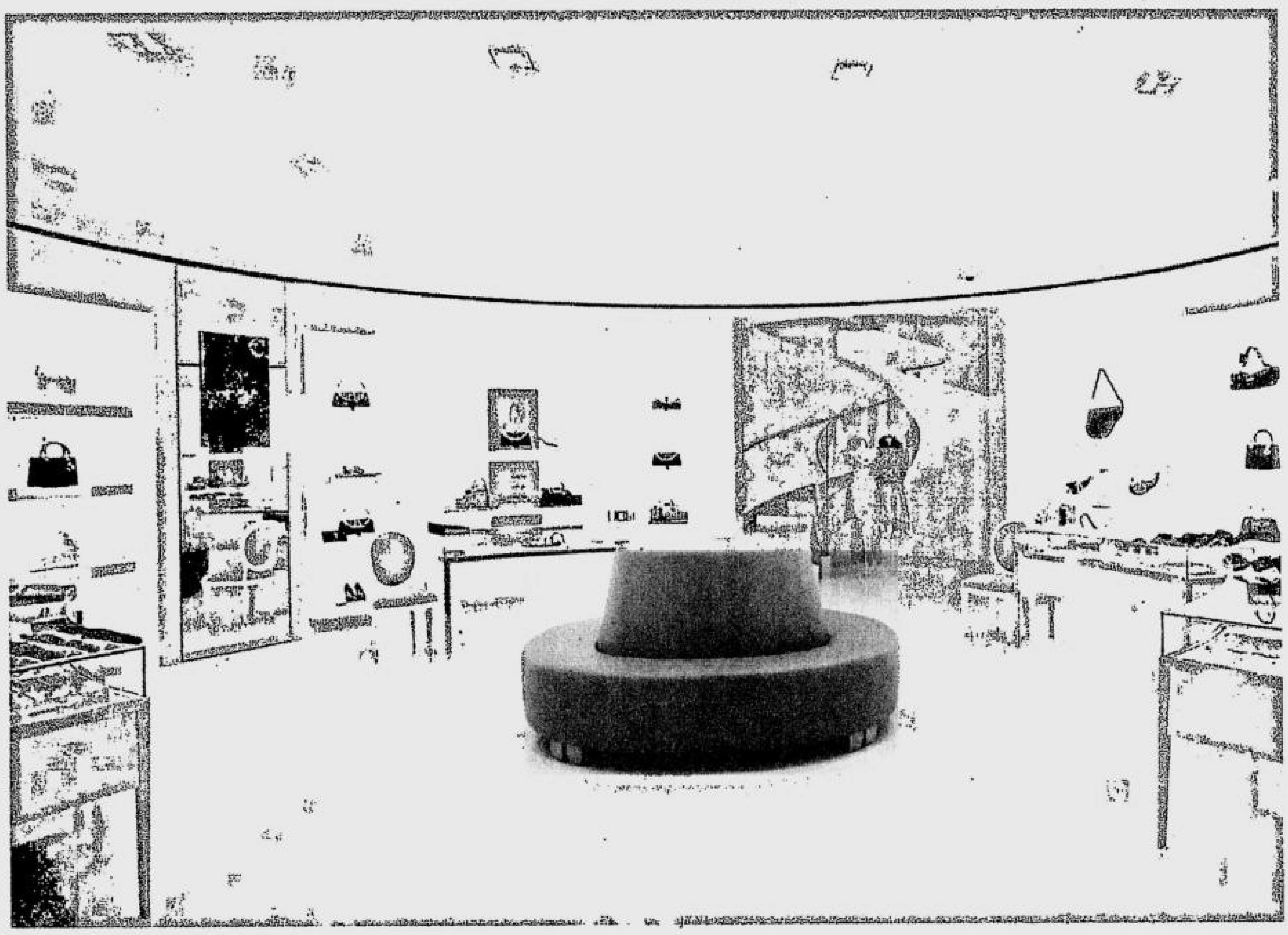


A SPECTACULAR glass-encased, spiral staircase leads to the second level.





Dior finds new Asian address, sans SARS



THE MAIN entrance level has a modern stark interior, combined with a cool limestone flooring and a glass-encased spiral staircase.

From page D1

to commemorate its opening on June 6. Of the special issue, 60 bearing the most auspicious numbers were sold on opening day. Before the second week of June, they had already sold out all 100. On its first day of business, the shop rang up a tremendous two weeks' worth of projected sales.

"The Dior 1 Peking Road flagship boutique, the largest in the Asia-Pacific, is a symbol of our commitment to Hong Kong," says Philippe Fortunato, managing director of Dior Asia-Pacific. "We are honored that we are a part of the One Peking Development, a prestigious and new addition to the unique skyline of Hong Kong."

Avenue Montaigne

Dior at 1 Peking Road has a unique, eye-catching modern and sleek façade of metal, glass and light. The entire exterior surface of the boutique is lit magically with a state-of-the art computer-programmed lighting system, offering an array of over 1,600 colors of light.

The two-level 4,500-square-foot boutique pays homage to the history and the spirit of Christian Dior. The signature and patented Dior "Cannage" pattern edged onto the entire glass backdrop of the front entrance evokes the quintessential Dior style of creative elegance.

Entering the boutique, the street-level entrance transports each customer to Dior's headquarters at 30 Avenue Montaigne, in the heart of Paris' most glamorous luxury shopping district. A distinctive, light-filled rotunda at street level showcases Dior's entire range of signature handbags and leather goods. The white interiors are a combination of cool limestone flooring, glass and steel fixtures and display counters. A spectacular, free-standing, glass-encased spiral staircase leads to the second level. Glass vases of white roses thoughtfully positioned around the store soften the stark interiors.

The second level offers the most comprehensive selection of the latest must-have creations of John Galliano for Dior. From women's ready-to-wear, shoes, leather goods, jewelry and accessories, each category will have its own fully dedicated section. A backlit white wall dramatically highlights its sunglass collection, and clothing is housed in a mirrored, less visible alcove, giving customers a feeling of privacy.

Hardcore look

Distinctive in shape, the body of the Hardcore Dior required unique molding methods to achieve the curve of its base. The alluring curve is mixed with metal studs for toughness in function and design. The overall unique shape of Hardcore Dior is accentuated with the subtle sheen of the silk satin jersey composition over the entire surface held by a durable black nylon woven signature Dior strap.

With details to seduce, Hardcore Dior is creatively loaded with the finest and most intricate jewelry on a handbag to offer the ultimate in modern glamour. Each bag is adorned with a detailed sparkle of a rhinestone-encrusted jeweled clasp, attaching an oversized urban chic D-I-O-R identification bracelet that also doubles as an alternative handbag strap to the black nylon one.

Hardcore Dior offers a distinctly urbane look combining the toughness of nylon and the sexiness of silk jersey with the hardness of steel and the glamour of rhinestones, creating a truly contemporary look for the fashion-forward Dior woman. The bag is finished by the finest craftsmen, offering the ultimate luxury in feel and in composition.

Hardcore Dior will be available in red, khaki and black. The handbag will be launched in three distinctive shapes. In addition to the range of handbags, a full line of Hardcore Dior accessories and shoes will be available with the instantaneously "hardcore" glamour touch.

Dior Asia-Pacific currently operates 54 boutiques in 12 countries and territories, including Hong Kong, China, Taiwan, Korea, Singapore, Thailand, Malaysia, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, Guam and Saipan. Dior at 1 Peking Road is the largest boutique in the Far East and Japan. It is the seventh Dior Boutique in Hong Kong.

EACH category of Dior products will have its own fully dedicated section.

ON THE SECOND level, the new Dior flagship will offer the most comprehensive selection of the latest must-have creations by John Galliano.

'Poderes de Santa Marta de Pateros' propagates devotion to the saint

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

CONTINUING a tradition began by old folk, a group of young men and women formed themselves into the "Poderes de Santa Marta de Pateros" in 1997 to see to it that the fiesta and activities related to the feast day of their miraculous Santa Marta on July 29 goes on in San Roque Parish in Pateros.

The founding members are Bong Quiogue, Lawrence Castillo, Cristy Pangilinan, Wilfredo Magdangan and Lester Cagalingan.

They assist the *recamaradera*, 78-year-old Crescencia Castillo, in dressing up the saint for the novena and fiesta Masses arranged by the parish priest, Fr. Von Jose Vargas.

How Santa Marta became the patron saint of Pateros stems from the oral history of the place. It was said that a ferocious crocodile used to eat the ducks floating on the river of Pateros and threatening the people. Because of their immense fear, the people asked the counsel of the native priest who was taking care of the *visita*. He advised them to seek the intercession of Santa Marta.

The people followed the advice of the priest. One evening, on a full moon, a number of people saw the figure of Santa Marta dancing on top of the crocodile. A flash of light came and the scenery disappeared, and from then on the crocodile was never seen again.

Because of the people's great joy and gratitude to the saint, they honored her and commissioned a *santero* to make them an image of the Santa Marta (the *matanda* or original *na imahen*).

The molave image showed her holding a cross on her left hand and a palm leaf to replace the twig on her right hand, while standing on top of a crocodile. It was made to be a local interpretation of a European icon showing her with a dragon on her feet.

On the 7th of August, 1815, Fray Andres Veil, the parish priest of Pateros, arrived. He said Mass that day as a sign of the ecclesiastical separation of the Pateros parish from the parish of Pasig.

On the 16th of August of the same year, the church and parish of Pateros were offered in honor of Saint Rocco (San Roque).

> Even though the parish's primary patron saint is San Roque, the devotion to Santa Marta is intense and has even spread to other nearby places

But even though the parish's primary patron saint is San Roque, the devotion to Santa Marta became more intense and even spread to other nearby places like Laguna, Binangonan, Cainta, etc.

In the 1970s, the devotion also spread across the Pacific. The fiesta is now celebrated in Florida, US; and in Toronto, Winnipeg and Alberta in Canada.

In the 1930s, when the duck-raising industry in Pateros started to go down, some of the town folks migrated to Kalawaan, Pasig. They brought with them their great devotion to the saint.

Thus, Pasig residents also celebrate a summer feast like Pateros, but on the third Sunday of February and the 29th of July to abide by church rules.

According to elders, the feast of Santa Marta in Pateros has always been celebrated either in January or February every year since the Spanish era. The specific date is selected by the old *poderes* depending on the full moon, since it gives light to the fluvial parade and the evening street-dancing procession.

The activities pertaining to the celebration of Santa Marta's feast day are: Novena Masses on July 20 at 3 p.m.; July 21-25 at 5:30 p.m.; July 27 at 3 p.m.; July 28 procession at 4:30 p.m. from the house of the *recamadera* back to the church; and July 29 procession after the 7:30 a.m. Mass and again after the 6:30 p.m. Mass.

Mother Teresa beatification

Despite the controversy surrounding the beatification of Mother Teresa of Calcutta, Filipino devotees are preparing to go to Rome to attend the beatification rites.

Fr. Vic Robles, Rector of the Divine Mercy Shrine, is leading a group of pilgrims organized by Adam's Travel. Those interested can call Adam's Travel at 521-1651 or 521-1698. Departure is October 14.

Of the 40 or so saints canonized by Pope John Paul II during his papacy, one of the most beloved is Mother Teresa, who was known as the "living saint."

She refused to accept the coveted Nobel Peace Prize but was prevailed upon on behalf of the poorest of the poor on the streets and in the slums of Calcutta, India.

She is unique in church history in that the time between her death and beatification is very short. On the day she will be counted among the blessed (preparatory to her canonization), thousands of abandoned, dispossessed, hungry, unclothed, destitute, orphaned, leprous and AIDS-afflicted people whom she cared for will rejoice. Indeed, she is a role model for the whole world.

After the beatification rites in Rome, the Adam's Express Travel pilgrimage tour will bring participants to the shrines of the miraculous Black Madonna of Czestochowa, patron saint of Poland; the Divine Mercy in Krakow, the Sto. Niño of Prague, St. Francis and St. Claire of Assisi, and St. Kolbe in Niepokalanow, among others.

Guadalupe Church needs help

Some of Bacolod's very best girls have come together to help the Our Lady of Guadalupe parish in Valladolid, Negros Occidental.

They are raising funds to change the pews and chairs of the church which are falling apart. The pews and chairs measure 20 ft. long and will be made of hardwood. One set costs P10,000 to make.

The more-than-200-year-old church has for its parish priest Fr. Alfredo Gumarcha. The girls are Luluday Villanueva, Analou Trebol, Millie Kilayko, Tima Lacson, Girl Cuaycong, Antonia Araneta, Chona Flores, Marlene Monfort, Mady Golez and Dr. Christina Sarabia-Heras.

MIRACULOUS Santa Marta, patroness of Pateros, Rizal

They have invited the "Spirit of 67" band to perform in Bacolod on August 2 to raise funds.

Those who wish to help can call Analou at 0917-3002597 or Christine at 0917-3358078, or make checks payable to Fr. Alfredo Gumarcha and mail letters to Tima Lacson at Negros Garden Center, Lacson cor. 9th St., Bacolod City.

The Guadalupe Church has become a pilgrimage place for those living in Bacolod and in the Visayas.

Operasyon Bukol

Pentamed, a group of hospitals that include the Dr. Victor Potenciano Medical Center, Cardinal Santos Hospital, Lourdes Hospital, San Juan Medical Center and Medical City Hospital, is giving free operations to poor women with abnormal growths or "mass" in their uterus, fallopian tubes or ovaries.

The screening is being held at San Juan Medical Center until August 1 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. San Juan Medical Center is at the back of the San Juan City Hall.

Filipino Mission Sunday

July 27 is Filipino Mission Sunday. This is the day when Catholics nationwide thank the Lord for the gift of faith received through the efforts of the missionaries in the past, and also pray for present-day missionaries, especially the members of the Mission Society of the Philippines (MSP).

Lipa feast day

Carmelites in Lipa will mark the feast day of Our Lady Madiatrix of All Grace on July 23. Pilgrims go to the place on that day for thanksgiving.

Perpetual vows for Franciscans

Three Franciscans surrendered themselves to a life of poverty, chastity and obedience when they pronounced their perpetual vows last May 30 at the Santuario de San Pedro Bautista in Quezon City.

They are Rey Canonoy, OFM; Gregorio Monte, Jr. OFM; and Samuel Salazar, OFM.

I remember Ceres Doyo telling me way back in 1991 that Samuel Salazar needed financial help in becoming a priest because he belonged to a very poor family in Caloocan. I remember writing about his situation, and before I knew it, I received a letter from him telling me that some benefactors had written him.

The recent mail this month showed him in his brown habit together with three other priests, ready to pronounce their perpetual vows.

I would like to thank the benefactors of Fr. Salazar for making his dream to serve the Lord as a priest come true.

Pauline cooperators

We met the Pauline cooperators in Tuguegarao during the Holy Mass celebrating the silver jubilee of Sr. Narcisa Moga of Tabuk, Kalinga.

She has been a Pauline sister for 25 years and the Pauline cooperators celebrated with her.

Founded by Fr. James Alberione, who was canonized last April 27, the association of cooperators aims to bring its members to holiness and to help them conform to Pauline spirituality. They are committed lay faithful who strive to live their Christian life better each day.

In Tuguegarao, the cooperators help the nuns in propagating a love for God by selling books and running a radio program on Christian life.

Also in Cagayan is the Villa Domingo Renewal Center, a perfect place for retreats and recollections. Located in Solana town, the place is run by the Holy Spirit Sisters. Get in touch with them through telefax (078) 824-8328 or cell phone 0916-436-9669.

"I stopped touching her."
I didn't want to be in that situation again.

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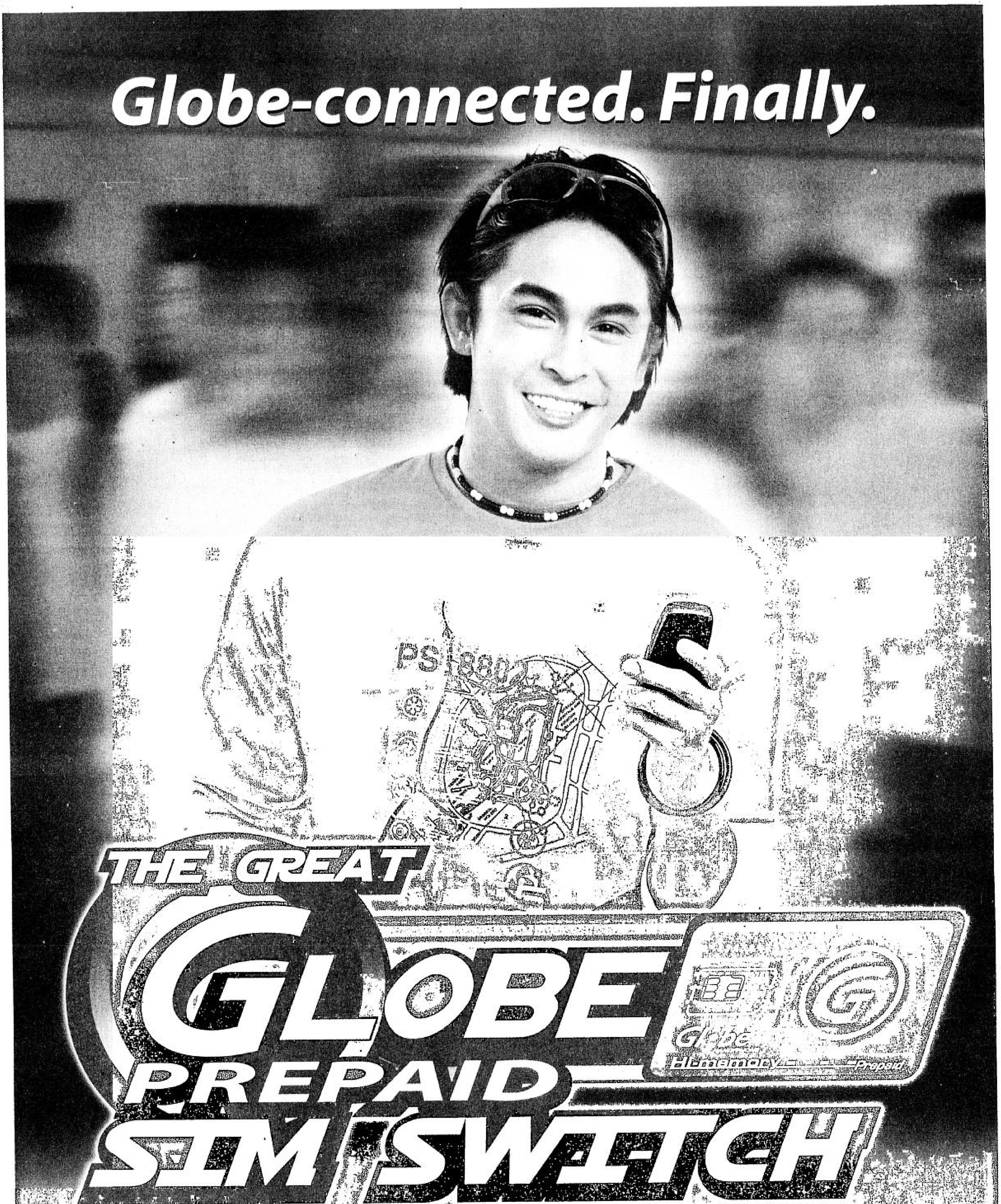

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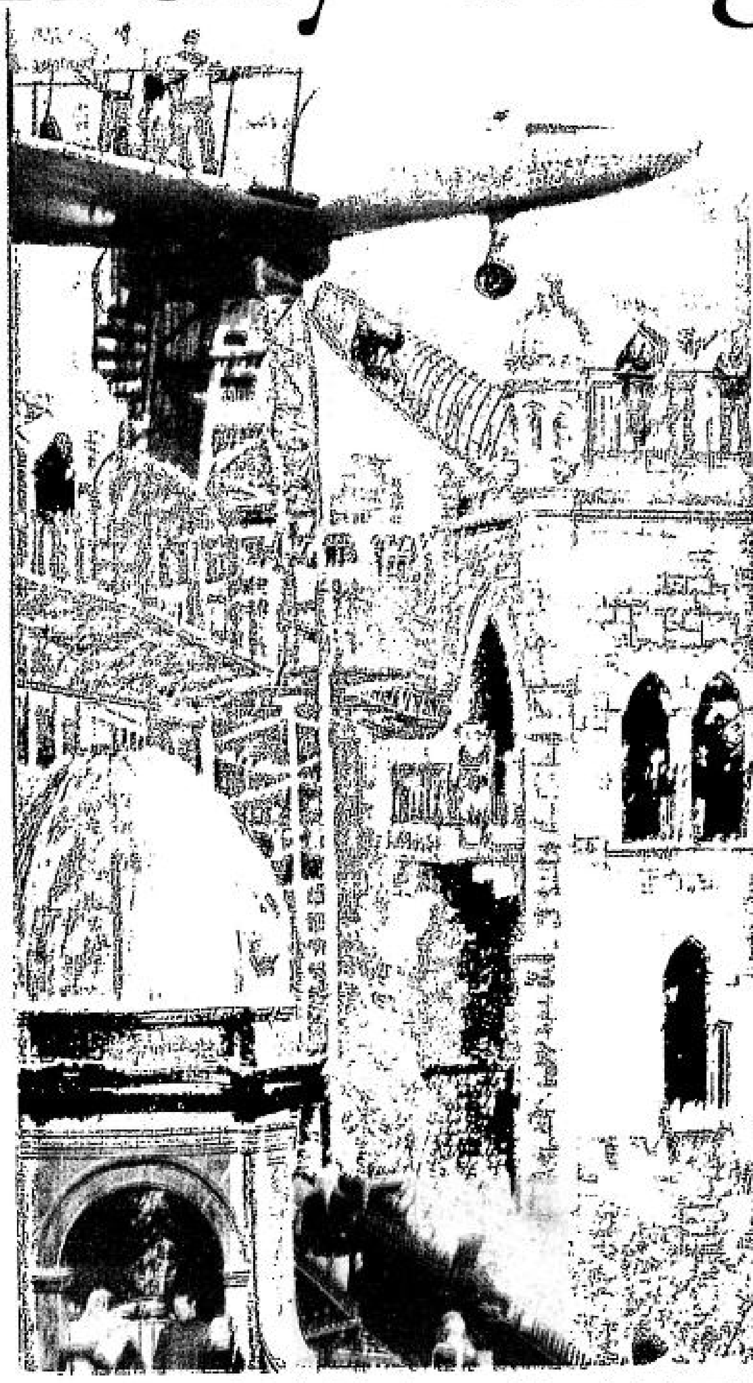
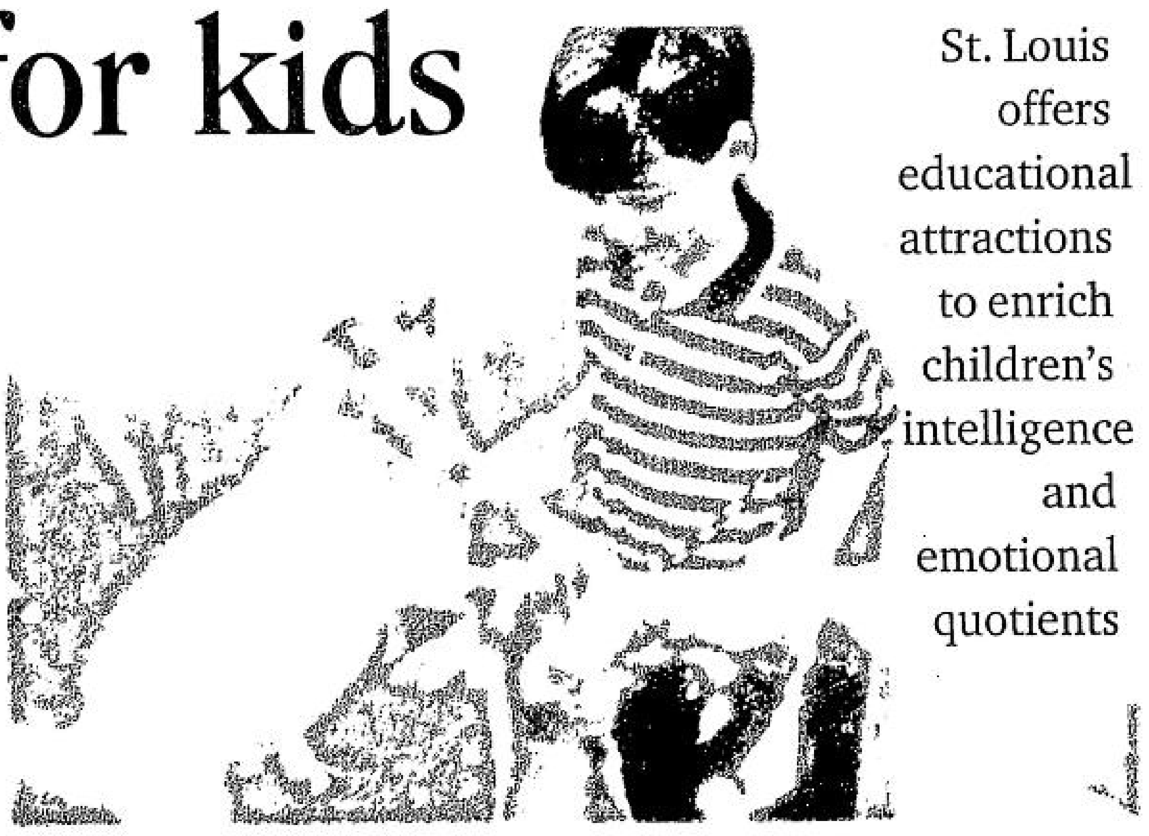
PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
Sunday LIFESTYLE
Escape

A city 'designed' for kids

St. Louis offers educational attractions to enrich children's intelligence and emotional quotients


THE CITY Museum in St. Louis is a playground of recycled, salvaged and found materials.


AN EARLY lesson in compassion at Grant's Farm

By Alex Y. Vergara

DUBBED as the "Gateway to the West" and birthplace of the blues, St. Louis is also one of the most child-friendly cities in the United States, with more than its fair share of attractions geared for kids of all ages, sizes and persuasions.

We're not talking of theme parks (leave that to California and Florida)—although Six Flags St. Louis boasts of more than a hundred rides and attractions.

The city chose to focus on educational attractions designed to enrich both children's intelligence and emotional quotients.

The city by the Mississippi River hosted the recent 35th International Powwow, an annual tourism convention geared to promote travel within the US. During a brief swing of family-oriented sites sponsored by convention organizers, we visited four of the city's more famous attractions: The Magic House, The Museum of Transport, Grant's Farm and the City Museum of St. Louis.

Magical house

You don't have to take an overgrown kid's word for it, but we found The Magic House (www.magichouse.org) the best in terms of the variety of visual and tactile attractions it offers. Think of it as a bigger, better-funded and more diverse version of Manila's Museo Pambata.

Housed in a three-story Victorian-inspired structure, the children's museum has a floor area of 25,000 sq ft and over 100 hands-on exhibits grouped into several "real-life" experiences.

The Market, for instance, is a scaled-down grocery complete with a mini-cashier, play money, faux goods—from meat to produce, to bottles of milk—even videos for rent.

Unlike a real bank, The Bank encourages children to try to find the right combination to open the vault. Others can simply use withdrawal and deposit slips.

Without leaving home, kids can learn a lot from travel inside the Magic House. A travel agency offers free lessons on geography inside and outside the US via interactive computer programs.

Would-be broadcasters (and future politicians) can start honing their public speaking skills by having their images videotaped for $6 while reading a news item in a make-believe newsroom.

But kids, especially preschoolers, whether they're black, white or brown, will always be drawn to water. Based on the number of youngsters at The Waterworks, it is no doubt one of The Magic House's more popular attractions.

Kids didn't mind getting wet as they tried to plug a series of waterspouts with their tiny palms or catch small boats and other bright floating objects as they whizzed by.

Others cast their lines to "catch" plastic items. Unable to take a dip in the shallow tank, some kids just thumped their hands aimlessly in the water. If only Mom and Dad would turn their backs for a few more minutes...

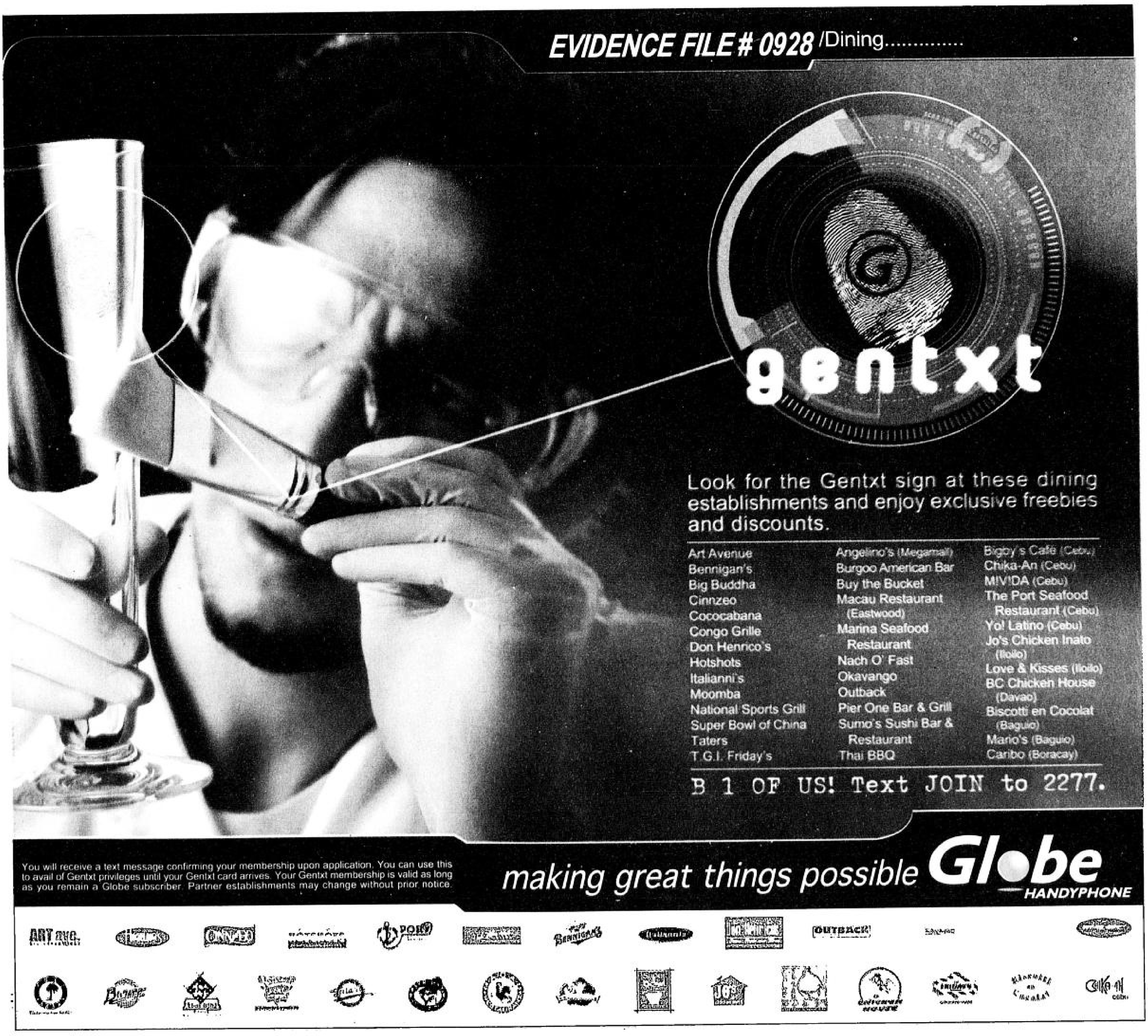
Bigger kids inclined to the natural sciences found items in the Electric Company and the science lab engaging. They, especially the boys, had fun playing with batteries, magnets and bolts of "lightning" enclosed in a huge round transparent bulb.

The science lab allowed kids to make like Mad Scientists concocting glowing potions using test tubes.

There's something for everybody to do at the Magic House. Kids with an artistic bent found their space in the art studio, while those who love to tinker and create items with their hands stayed in the workshop. Others with energy left to spare spent the rest of their time in the mini-sports area.

Being a "house," even if it is magical, the museum has a living

A CITY/ E2



EVIDENCE FILE # 0928 /Dining..............

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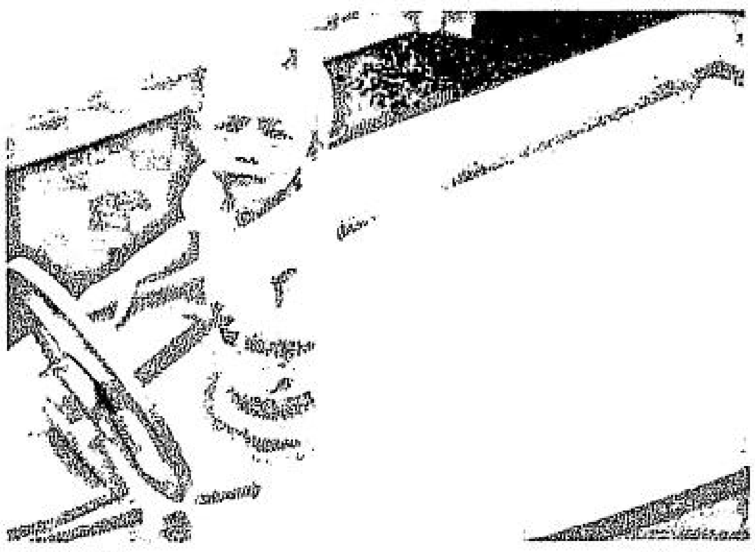
TRAM ride at Grant's Farm

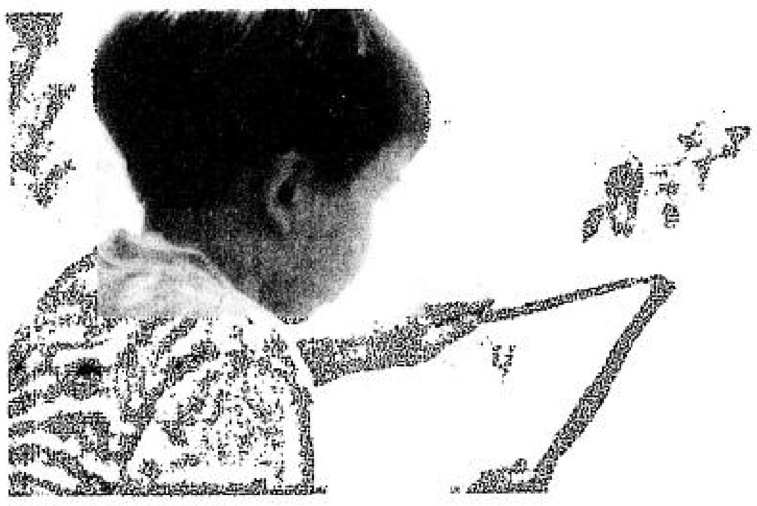
FUN with the "neighbors"



HOP on in!

ALEX VERGARA

A city 'designed' for kids



COLOR him rainbow

FIRST impressions last

WATER world

ALEX VERGARA

From page E1

room, bedroom and kitchen. Future homemakers will get some practice in a scaled-down model of a kitchen, complete with a miniature sink, oven, cupboard and faux spaghetti, pizza and hamburgers as hard as plastic.

Old McDonald isn't there

The Grant's Farm (www.grantsfarm.com) also offers children plenty of opportunities to interact. This time, though, they do it outdoors with animals as they pat and bottle-feed goats and other creatures at the Tier Garten.

The 281-acre farm named after President Ulysses Grant, who once plowed and planted a portion of it, is home to more than 1,000 animals from the world over.

The attraction is now managed by the heirs of August Busch Sr., the other half of the duo that established the Anheuser-Busch brewery, makers of the world-famous Budweiser beer, more than a century ago.

No carnivores in this farm, thank goodness. Because of its semi-open setup, only herbivores—from zebras, to deer, to huge American bison—roam freely in the Deer Park.

A 20-minute tram ride offers guests the chance to see animals from a distance, such as the North American wapiti, red deer, black buck antelope, Pere David deer and axis deer.

Fighting off the effects of jetlag, our group tried in vain to stay alert as the tour guide called our attention to each creature we chanced upon during the tram ride. Some animals were no-shows due to the rains.

Alas, most of us would rather sleep than learn the difference between a red and an axis deer. Now, where was the growling lion when needed?

Children as well as adults are bound to enjoy a visit to the Clydesdale stables. The huge breed of horses with a blaze of white on the face and a black mane and tail were brought to the US from Scotland in 1870. Because of their hauling power, the horses were first used for beer delivery, until trucks replaced them at the turn of the last century.

Today, Clydesdales, with their trademark white feathering on all four legs and feet, are more than just an attraction. They're living reminders of Anheuser-Busch brewery's rich past and humble beginnings. In honor of its long tradition of love for animals, heirs have continued to breed the horses.

There are around 250 Clydesdales in Grant's Farm, one of two breeding farms the company owns and manages.

Architectural showcase

A city tour of child-friendly St. Louis won't be complete without a stop at the City Museum (www.citymuseum.org). Too bad we had spent less than 15 minutes in the museum before we had to return to our respective hotels. But a glimpse of the items in the main hall was enough to make our jaws drop.

Instead of a depository of artifact and other relics of the past, the museum is an architectural showcase where designers pieced together an indoor playground made of recycled, salvaged and found materials.

Certain sections of the walls, floors and columns, for example, are encrusted with a mish-mash of tiles, stones and bricks salvaged from torn-down buildings. Mosaics of patterns and colors are a sight to behold.

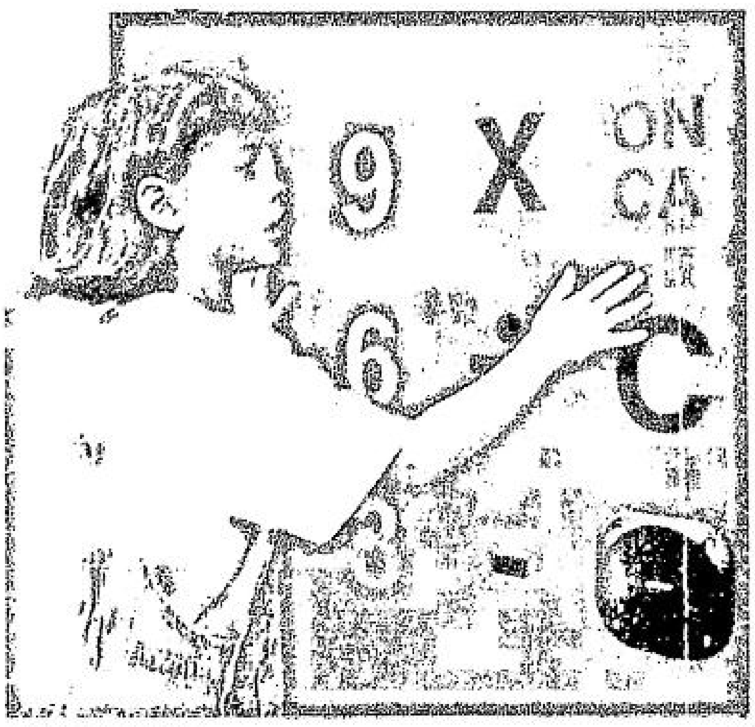
Hidden stairs, giant sculptures of sea creatures and various means of access—a giant coiled tube tops them all—are built around these same walls, floors and columns. An architectural hall with statues, carvings and bas-relief images that once adorned now-demolished buildings is almost complete.

Despite the already numerous attractions, the City Museum is still a work in progress. A new slinky tube will supposedly overlook the museum's entry stairs, while a new three-story slide awaits the precocious child and the free-spirited adult.

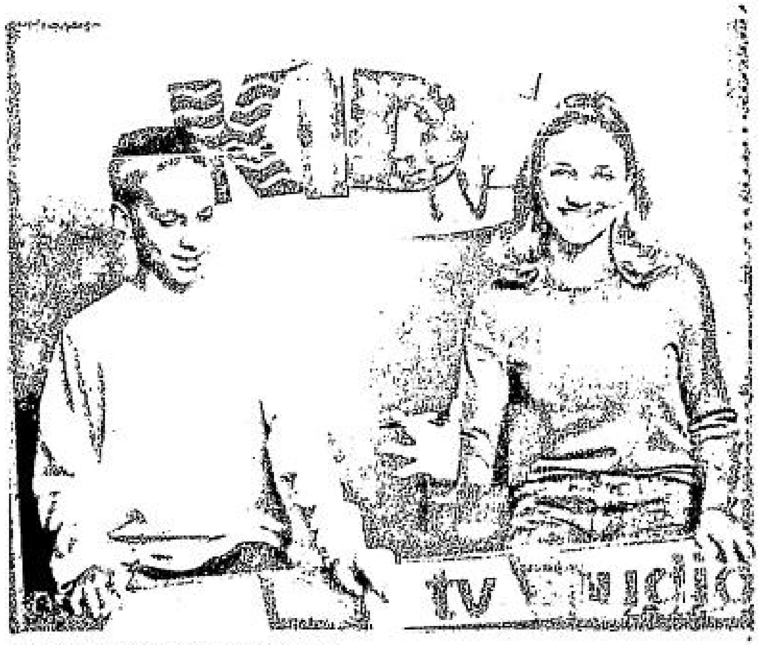
Northwest flies twice daily to St. Louis via Tokyo-Narita and Nagoya.

E-mail the author avergara@inquirer.com.ph

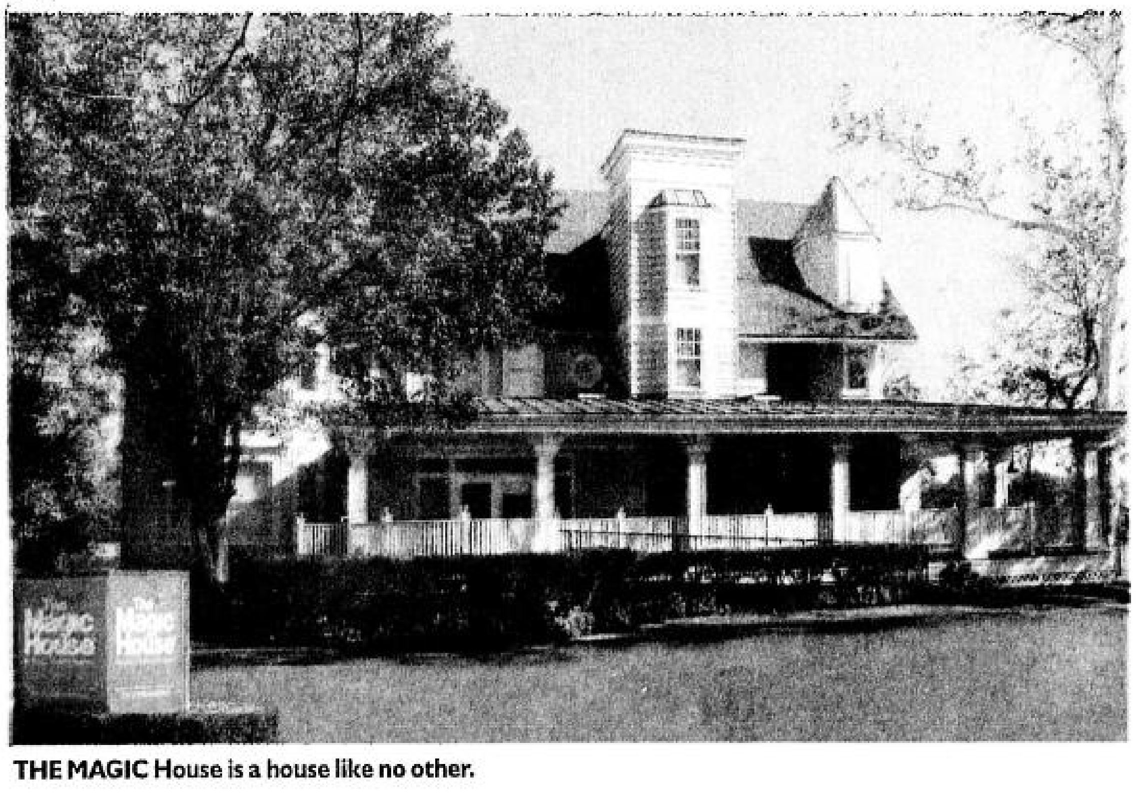
HAIR-RAISING experience at The Magic House's science lab



MATH made easy



THE LIGHTER side of the news



THE MAGIC House is a house like no other.

WHERE Clydesdales (and a dog) run free

On the trail of the mummies

AMERICAN expert inspects a Benguet cave mummy.
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC

By Constantino C. Tejero

ON WINDY nights, the sound of the gong could be heard from the heights of Mt. Singakalsa.

The eerie sound was often heard in Kabayan, one of Benguet's 13 municipalities in the central Cordillera, an area of steep mountain slopes over 1,500 meters in elevation, about 335 km north of Manila and 85 km northeast of Baguio.

The mysterious source of the sound was discovered in 1908 when a hunter followed a deer on a trail which led to a cave, in front of which was an ancient pine tree with a gong hung on its branch.

When the wind blew, the gong would strike the rock wall of a cave. This was the mummy cave of Timbac, one of two on a ridge.

The story was narrated by Baban Berong, a farmer living in the *poblacion*. He recalls that when he was a child his father had asked him if he'd like to see a *ma king*, or "dried corpse," then took him to the mountain to see the mummies.

The whole place is sacred ground to the Ibalois, a large ethnic group in Benguet. Kabayan is known as the cradle of Ibaloi culture.

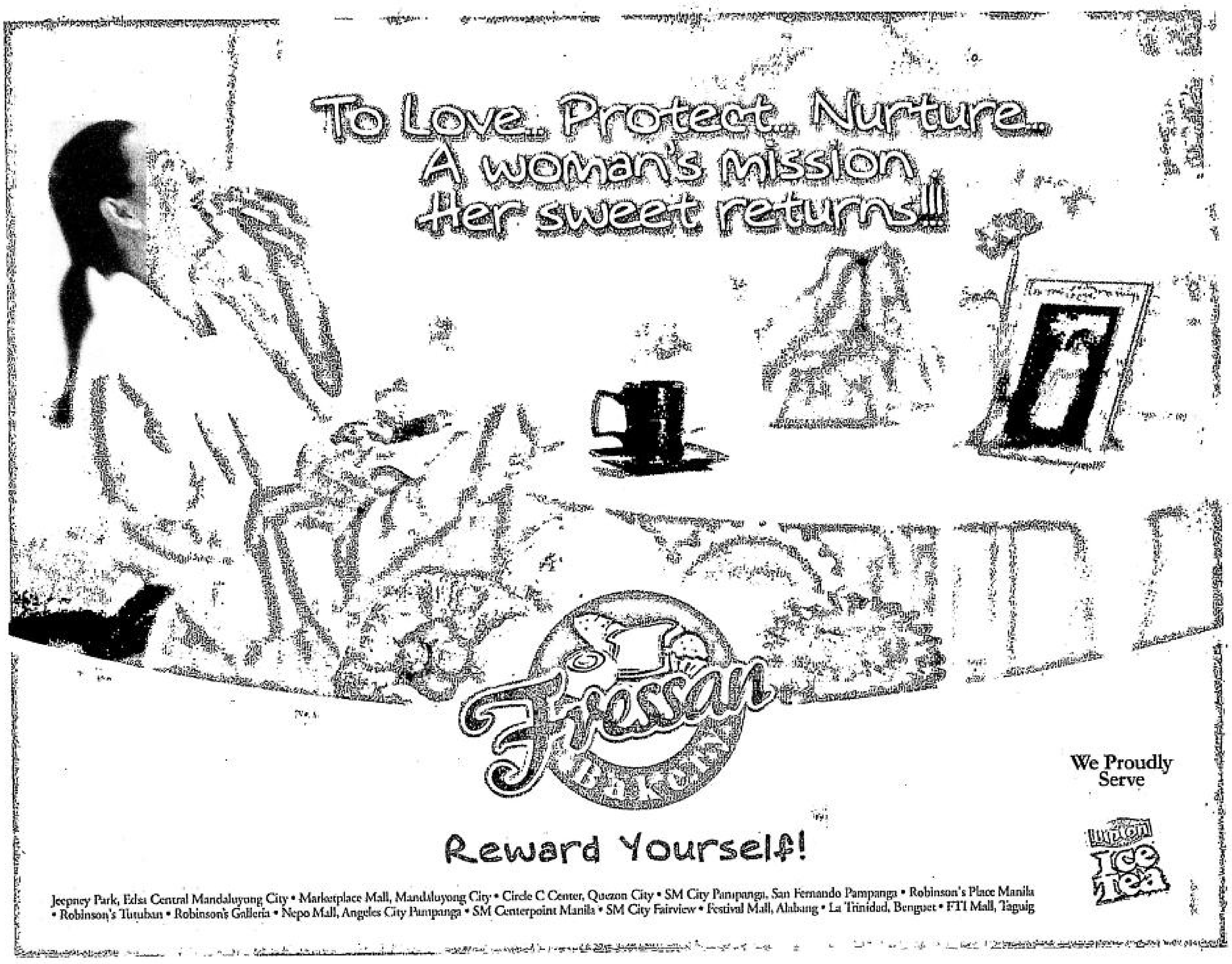
Berong himself discovered the Opdas Burial Cave right in his backyard, while building his house in 1971. The mass-burial place contained 186 skulls that, when carbon-dated in Tokyo University, were found to be 500-1,500 years old.

"I think there are only about 140 skulls left," says Berong. "Many were stolen, especially those with complete sets of teeth."

He tells of a tourist from La Trinidad who had tried to extract a tooth from one skull. A few days later the tourist's face bloated, and was healed only after some rituals and propitiation with offerings.

A trek through the Kabayan jungle leads us to the Tenongchol Burial Rock. It is a boulder

ON THE TRAIL/ E5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EVIDENCE FILE # 1001 /Sports and Entertainment..........

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Freddie's Billiard (Baguio)
Gimbals (Baguio)
Vega Music Bar (Iloilo)

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Museum shows there's life before and after Americans in Angeles

Text by Linda B. Bolido
Photos by Johnny Villena

THOUGH it might look that way, Angeles City's history did not begin with the arrival of the Americans. And Clark, the former American Air Force Base, is not all there is to the city.

In fact, the first President of the fledgling Philippine Republic, Emilio Aguinaldo, marked the first anniversary of the country's independence in the town that was then named after a sturdy vine that grew abundantly in the area.

The vine disappeared through the years, and Kuliat eventually became known as the Philippines' own City of Angels, at least in name.

Years of American presence, which practically turned the city into foreign territory, might have blurred memories of what Kuliat once was among many Filipinos, but it must have figured prominently in the country's history for Aguinaldo to celebrate the first anniversary of the Philippine independence there.

Showcasing rich heritage

Now a group of Angeleños want to recapture their city's old glory. Setting up the Kuliat Foundation Inc. (KFI) in 1999, the group has since been trying to demonstrate that, long before Angeles became almost synonymous with PX stores and American goods, it has had its share of artistic and cultural accomplishments.

The foundation is using as venue for showcasing the city's cultural and artistic heritage the Museo ning Angeles, the 78-year-old former *municipio*.

Located in the oldest part of the city, at the corner of Sto. Rosario and Entierro Streets right across from the cathedral, the old municipal hall has become the venue for exhibitions, art classes, concerts and other performances since it opened three years ago.

The building fell under the care of the foundation after the city government moved to its new offices. Mayor Carmelo Lazatin, founding chair of the foundation, entrusted the two-story structure to the organization, which then transformed it, after some major repairs, into Angeles City's first and only museum.

KFI has also enlisted the support of prominent Kapampangans in cash, kind and every which way in its efforts to bring about an artistic and cultural rebirth in the city.

This year, as part of the Independence Day celebration, the foundation invited three of the city's native children to mount an exhibit at the Museo ning Angeles. All three are famous for their art and craft but it is not generally known that they trace their roots to Pampanga.

Native children

Patis Tesoro, the fashion innovator who put the *piña* as a fabric way up there in the very best societies, set up an exhibit of her Ninay dolls in their elaborate costumes depicting traditional Kapampangan scenes, from the simple *pagmamano* to the vibrant fiesta. The dolls now constitute one of the permanent exhibits in the museum.

Tesoro was born Ma. Beatriz Pamintuan, a member of the illustrious clan in Angeles whose mansion was used as the venue for the first anniversary celebration of Philippine independence.

Joining Tesoro are visual artists BenCab and Claude Tayag.

Now based in Baguio City, BenCab exhibited selected etchings and drawings. The internationally acclaimed painter was born in Manila of Kapampangan parents.

Tayag, who is also known as a gourmet cook, displayed some of his wooden sculptures and still-life paintings.

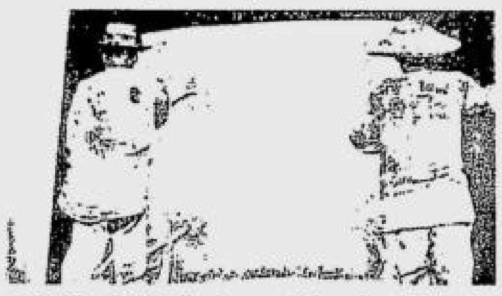
Since Angeles is in Pampanga and the Kapampangans are renowned for their cooking, the Museo ning Angeles would have been remiss if it did not include an exhibit of things related to food.

One of the permanent displays is a traditional kitchen with a collection of the cooking utensils and tools, including cookie cutters in the shape of saints, that Kapampangans used before they got used to cooking ranges and stainless pots and pans.

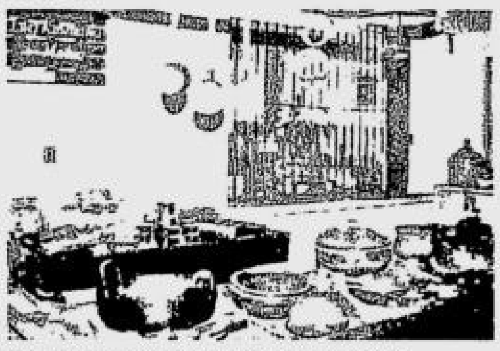
For more information on the Museo ning Angeles, call (045) 322-8392.

> Kuliat must have figured prominently in the country's history for Aguinaldo to celebrate the first anniversary of Philippine independence there

STUDENTS learn about their city's history from old photos.



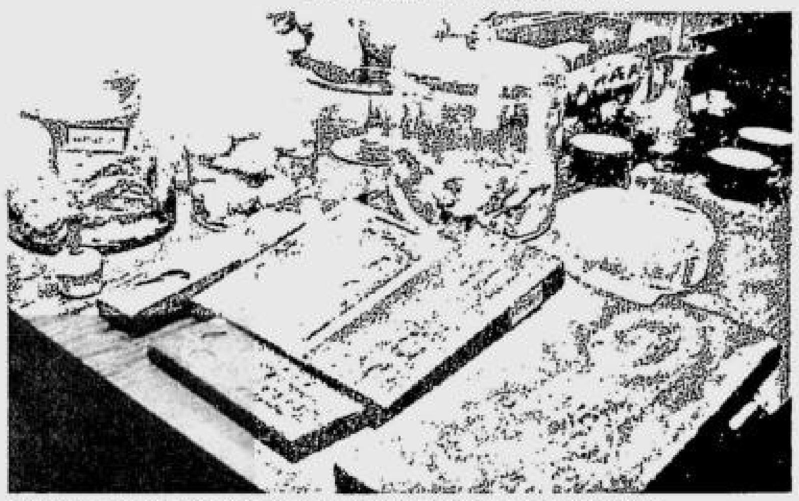
A PAIR of dolls display traditional costumes for men.



IN THE OLDEN days, Kapampangans whipped up their mouthwatering delicacies in kitchens with these utensils.

BenCabrera
Claude Tayag
Museo ning Angeles
Kuliat Foundation Inc.
Welcome to
A Homecoming of Kapampangan Artists

THE OLD *municipio* becomes a fitting repository of relics of Angeles City's historied past and images of its present.

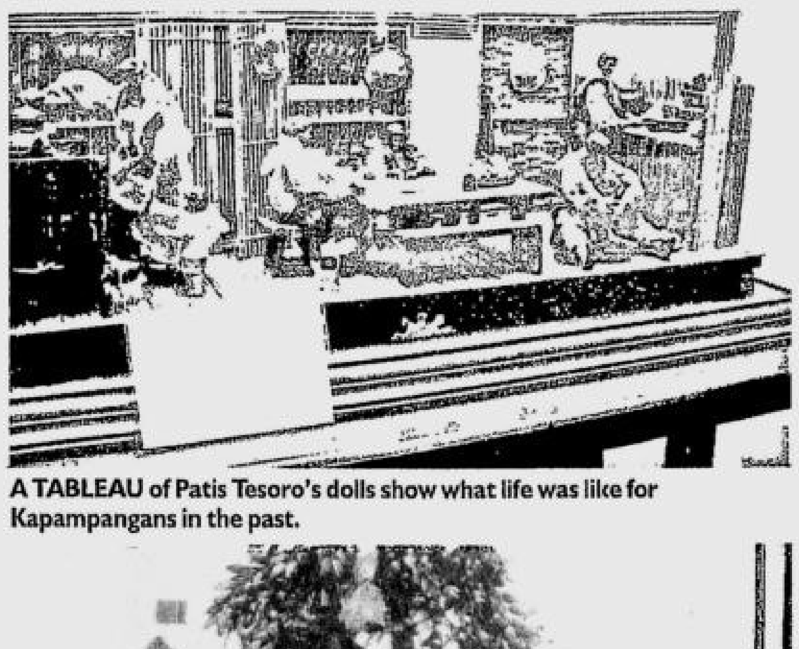


OLD cookie molds with the images of saints were used by the Kapampangans to make "feel-good" gifts for the sick.

PROBINSIYANA "lass" strikes a colorful pose in her *baro't saya* as she balances a bundle on her head.

Claude Tayag
BenCab

FOR INDEPENDENCE Day, the Museo ning Angeles held a month-long exhibition of the works of Kapampangan artists Claude Tayag and BenCab.



A TABLEAU of Patis Tesoro's dolls show what life was like for Kapampangans in the past.

THE ELABORATE wedding gown Tesoro whipped up for this doll will make many a real bride envious.

TESORO'S permanent exhibition of Ninay dolls includes this colorful *belen*.

On the trail of the mummies

From page E3

almost as big as a three-story building, with four niches containing wooden coffins carved with anthropomorphic design, and two niches that are empty, the remains of the dead apparently stolen.

Our guide Chester says that, to create these clefts, holes and recesses on the rock face from ground level to way up, their ancestors poured water boiled with ginger on to the rock to soften it, then chiseled away.

First glimpse

Our first glimpse of the mummies is in Kabayan Museum.

Seated crouching at the center is what is called the Laughing Mummy, a 45-year-old male with yellowing skin and a full set of teeth.

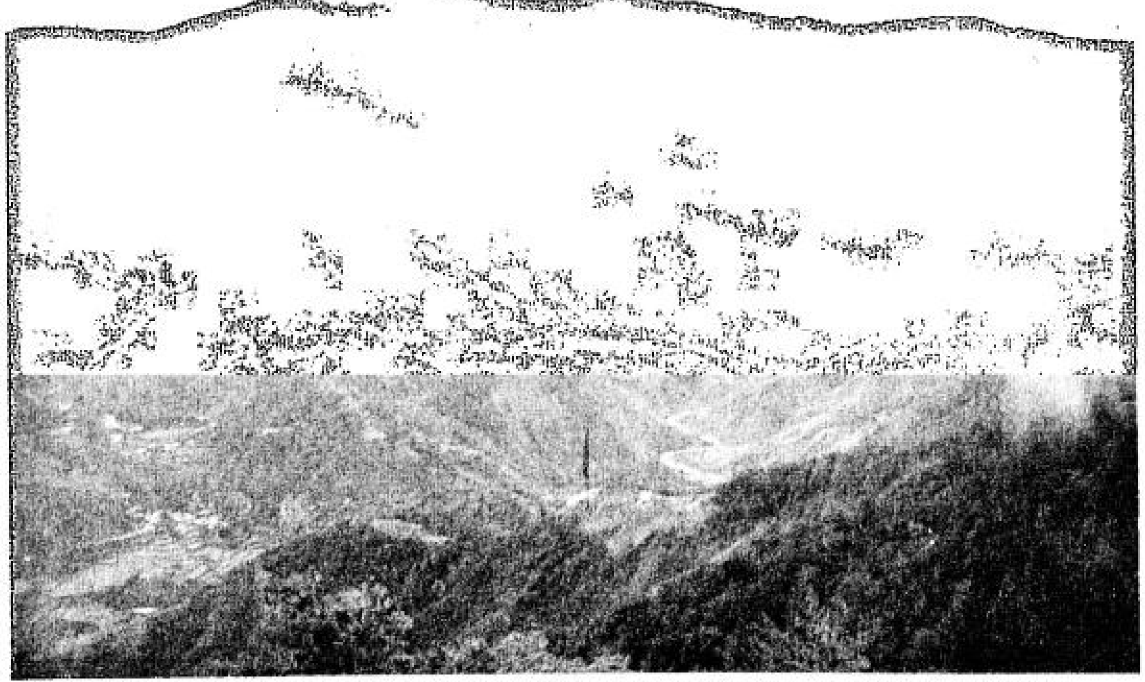
A note on the wall has these findings: "Brain, intestines and male organ intact. Teeth are nice. Skull is good. Soft tissue exists. Spine is clear. No arthritis. Leg bones are pretty."

The Smiling Mummy is a female with a curious incision on the abdomen. The note says: "Uterus gone. She had undergone dissection."

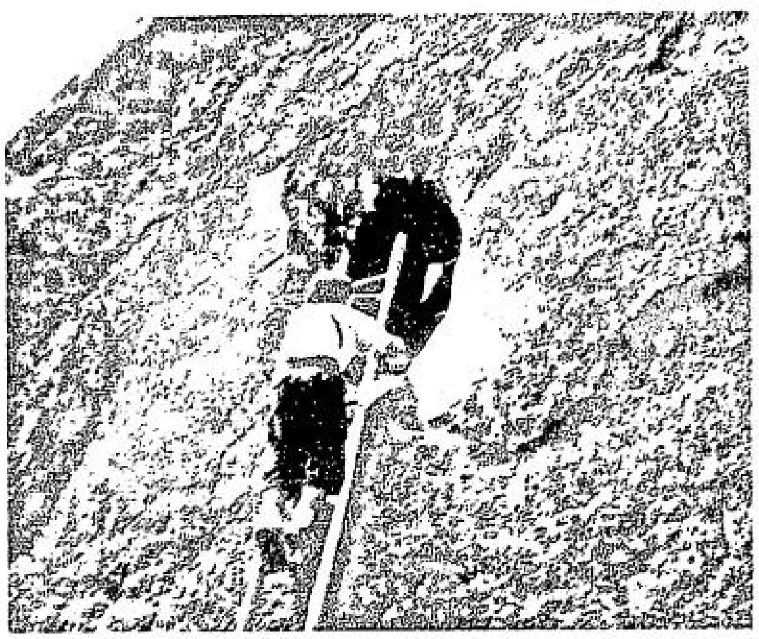
Laid in coffins are a woman with full-body tattoos and a child of five.

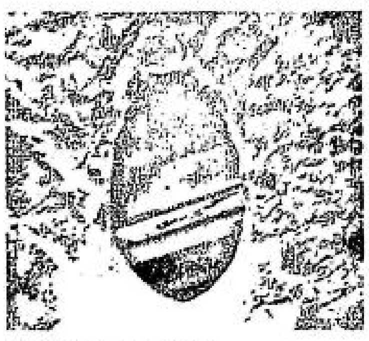
A long drive through the Halsema Highway—past its coldest point in Sinipsip if you're coming from Kabayan *poblacion*, and, if coming from La Trinidad, past the highest point of the Philippine highway system, Km 52 in Atok, at an elevation of 7,400 ft—brings you to the world-famous Timbac Caves.

After driving through three kilometers of one-way trail from the highway, on a slow ascent of Mt. Singakalsa, 2,820 meters above sea level, you reach a plateau. From here you take 260 stone steps down to the ridge where the caves are.


THE WHOLE area is a dwelling place of spirits, with Mt. Pulag in the background, home of the gods.

PHOTOS: KELLY AUSTRIA


CLAMBERING up the burial rock


COFFINS in a niche

Evening can be extremely cold and foggy here, while morning has clear light that reveals the *poblacion* of Kabayan below and a view of Mt. Pulag, the country's second-highest mountain, home of the gods.

The National Museum has prohibited tourists' visits to these caves. There used to be an average of 50 visitors a year, says Musi Malsino, who has been employed as caretaker by the National Museum since 1981.

This is part of his ancestral land, where he settled in 1978 to farm vegetables and flowers such as shasta and calla lilies.

Malsino says the caves were rediscovered in 1948 by *kainginero* Hipolito Decoran, when part of a coffin fell off the trail.

There were 30 mummies then, two of them babies, but now they're 26. Four were stolen in 1975, and they are now in Switzerland. Malsino says their recovery would cost billions of pesos to the Philippine government.

After a prayer and some offering of gin, bread, cigarettes, he opens the iron-grill gate at the mouth of the cave to let the visitors have a peek.

A NATIONAL Cultural Treasure

AN OFFERING to appease the spirits

Stacked on one another in the recesses of the cave are three rounded (dugout) and five rectangular (box-type) coffins of pinewood. Each contains an average of 3-4 mummies. Malsino explains pinewood is not easily damaged because of its rich resin content.

Eerie sight

As soon as we stick our heads into the cave, we are welcomed by an eerie sight: a family of three crouched in one coffin, who appear to be screaming. They're like persons caught off-guard in their nakedness, terrified by the intrusion.

Aside from those in Tenongchol and Timbac, there are also mummies in the caves of Bangao, Sabkil, Tiking, Na-apay. The whole area is ancient burial ground, dwelling place of spirits.

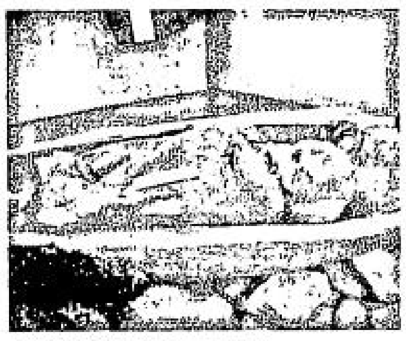
These caves have been declared National Cultural Treasure pursuant to Presidential Decree 260. The protection and preservation of the mummies is provided by the Philippine Constitution, Sec. 16, Art. XIV.

Baban Berong says there are a lot more such caves in the vicinity, but the folk won't tell where they are because tourists might steal the remains of their ancestors. Benguet Provincial Ordinance 01-69 prohibits and penalizes the withdrawal and possession or transportation of any mummy away from its burial site.

A disturbance of their resting place is thought to bring about epidemics and famines. That's why the folk are protective of them, or they'll bring the curse of the mummies upon their own heads.

A famous case was that of the mummy of Apo Anno, which was stolen in 1918. Natural calamities and manmade disasters were said to befall its homeplace, until it was returned in 1999 to its sacred burial cave in Nabalicong, Natubleng, Buguias.

In Benguet Museum in the provincial capital La Trinidad, a chart on the wall provides a step-by-step of mummification: The person is made to drink a salt solution just before or after death, to help preserve the digestive system. The body is undressed and bathed with freshwater. Then it is made to sit tied to a chair, under which is a low fire to preserve the tissues. When it starts to bloat, a jar is put under the chair to catch the fluid, which is considered sacred.


A CHILD in the museum

At noontime, it is taken out to

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TRAVEL

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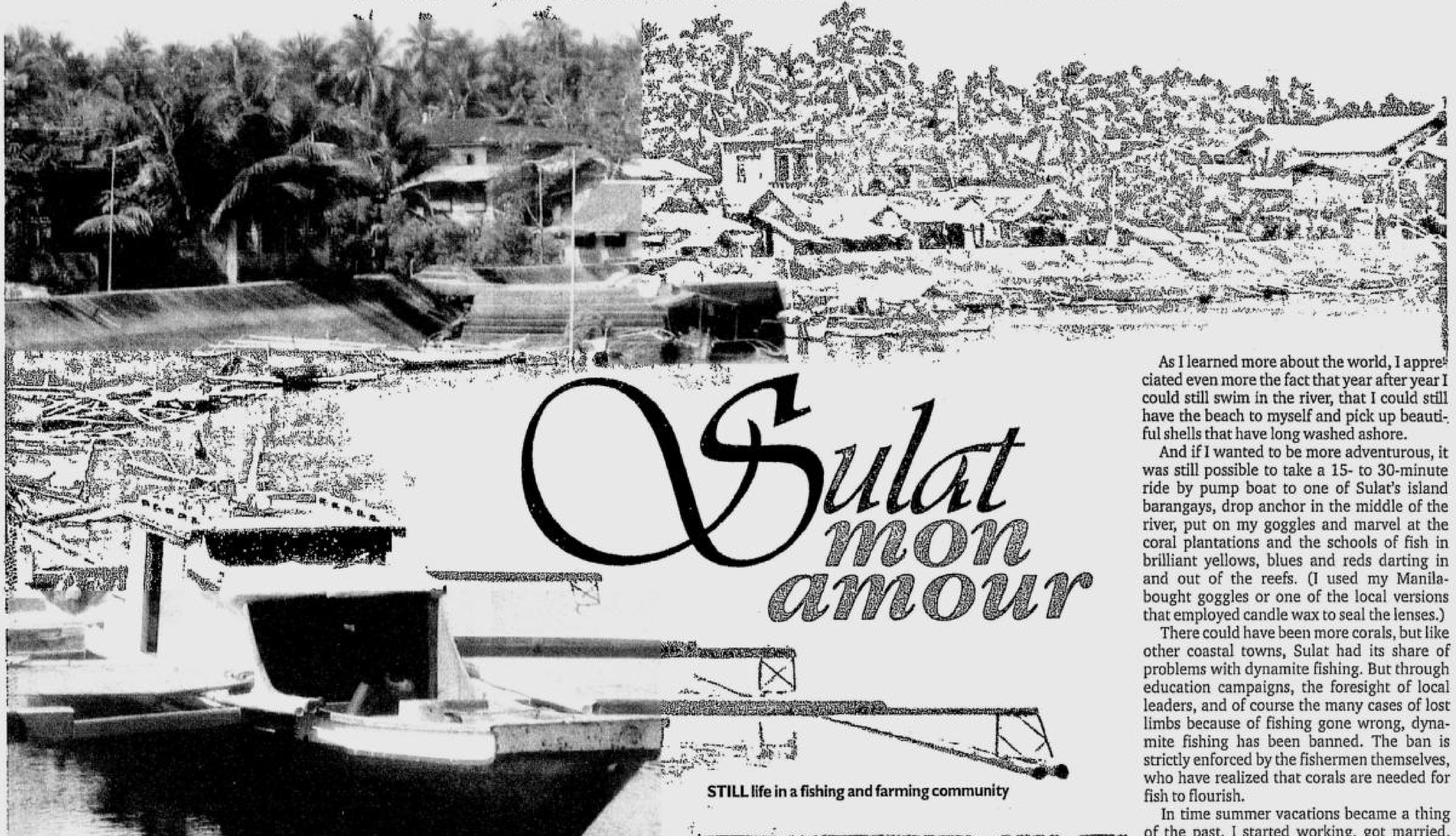


STILL life in a fishing and farming community

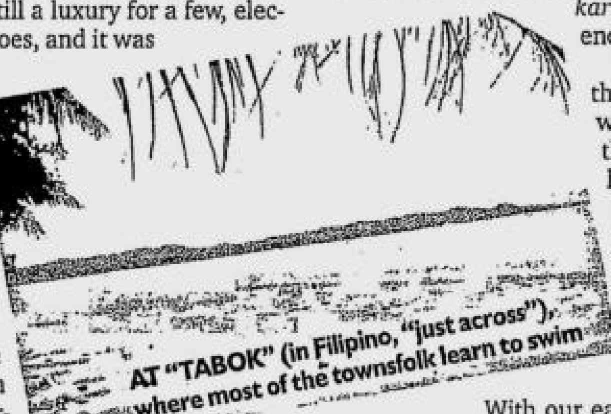
Sulat mon amour

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

I WAS neither born nor raised in this coastal town in Eastern Samar facing the vast Pacific Ocean, but I have always considered it my one true home.

Some may say Sulat, which is two towns away from Eastern Samar's capital of Borongan, is not much to look at and not worth the three-hour drive along sometimes rocky roads from the airport in Tacloban, Leyte.

It has no historical place of interest, no lodging space for a tourist or backpacker. Indoor plumbing is still a luxury for a few, electricity comes and goes, and it was only this year that households started enjoying their own telephones.



AT "TABOK" (in Filipino, "just across"), where most of the townsfolk learn to swim

But since the first time I, then eight years old, came to this place of my mother's birth to spend the summer vacation with my grandparents, Francisco and Antonia Operario, I was struck by its understated beauty.

What it lacked in man-made attractions, it has more than made up for by being a steadfast steward of God's awesome creations.

"We have the world's biggest swimming pool," my Lolo Paking once said, and for a while I actually believed that my grandparents, both gone now, owned the river that meanders behind their home.

It was in that river where I learned how to swim, where I watched my Lolo give his pigs a bath (one for each of the 10 grandchildren) and where I spent many hours of waiting in vain under the baking sun to catch fish, using *umang* expertly removed from the shell as bait.

Sulat's many fishermen had better luck. At noon, they would drift past our house and my Lola Antonia would call out from the house's balcony in Waray (spoken in Samar and most of Leyte), "*Ano, may ada* (Do you have some)?"

If they said yes, she would send me or one of my cousins running out back to get some of that day's catch.

Budlis (bluefin tuna), *pak-an* (yellowfin tuna), *pogita* (octopus) and assorted saltwater fish in magnificent colors were just some of the treats that we had for lunch or dinner, lovingly grilled or fried by our grandfather, our small family's designated cook.

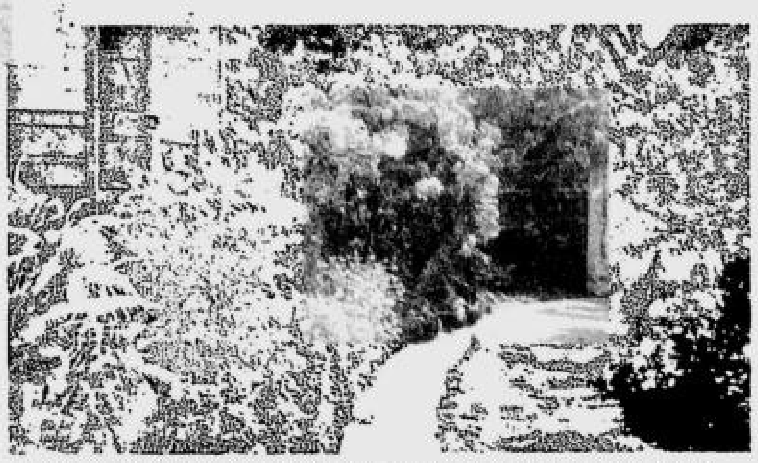
On weekends, Lolo Paking would take us to his "garden" near the Sulat elementary school. He hired us cousins on occasion to join him in harvesting his string beans, peanuts and pineapples, and later, pushing a *kariton* (cart) along the quiet concrete streets, we sold what we picked.

We would be all sold out long before our *kariton* reached the end of our street.

The townsfolk either felt sorry for or were amused by these children hawking produce on the road. But I would like to think it was because my Lolo's fruits and vegetables really tasted good.

With our earnings we would buy ourselves soda—"Cokes" was what we called it, a very special treat in those days—and crackers or a plateful of salukara, Sulat's glutinous-rice version of American pancakes.

Because there were hardly any vehicles around, our playground was the wide outdoors. My cousins and I ran ourselves ragged on the hot pavements, feasted on *halo-halo* or a variety of rice cakes such as *sarongsong, libro-libro, ligad-ligad* and *moron*, and played with the neighbors, who did not mind my halting Waray.



PROFUSION of blooms in Francisco and Antonia Operario's home by the sea

PHOTOS BY JEROME C. DUMLAO

> The bells would peal at 6 p.m. and we would run like the wind to get home, pray the Angelus, and receive our grandparents' blessings

But as soon as the church bells rang at 6 p.m., we would run like the wind to get home, or face the wrath of Lola Antonia, who insisted on having everybody home to pray the Angelus and recite a litany of prayers from the *Memorare* to the Prayer of St. Francis of Assisi. Afterwards we would greet our grandparents "Good evening" in a chorus of high-pitched voices, then fall in line, from the eldest to the youngest, to receive their blessings.

Religion has always played a big role in Sulat, where almost all of the residents are Roman Catholic.

Life practically revolves around the pealing of the bells, and the townsfolk know from the rhythm if somebody, including the gender, has died, if there is a wedding ongoing, or if Mass is about to start.

These scenes from my childhood did not change as I continued to be shipped off to my Lolo and Lola for summer vacations through grade school, those difficult teenage years in high school, and then college.

But the images shifted focus and clarity as I viewed my town through maturing eyes.

As I learned more about the world, I appreciated even more the fact that year after year I could still swim in the river, that I could still have the beach to myself and pick up beautiful shells that have long washed ashore.

And if I wanted to be more adventurous, it was still possible to take a 15- to 30-minute ride by pump boat to one of Sulat's island barangays, drop anchor in the middle of the river, put on my goggles and marvel at the coral plantations and the schools of fish in brilliant yellows, blues and reds darting in and out of the reefs. (I used my Manila-bought goggles or one of the local versions that employed candle wax to seal the lenses.)

There could have been more corals, but like other coastal towns, Sulat had its share of problems with dynamite fishing. But through education campaigns, the foresight of local leaders, and of course the many cases of lost limbs because of fishing gone wrong, dynamite fishing has been banned. The ban is strictly enforced by the fishermen themselves, who have realized that corals are needed for fish to flourish.

In time summer vacations became a thing of the past. I started working, got married, and had a son. But I still made it a point to snatch a few days away from work every year to head home.

From being a source of nourishment for my eye for beauty, Sulat eventually became the refuge for a spirit weary of the pressures of city life and the challenges of balancing the demands of career and family.

And why not? Time runs at a much slower pace in this corner of the world, and the lonely chirp of the urban *maya* gives way to the call of herons, kingfishers and other marine birds. There is no roar of tricycles running full throttle, and one falls asleep with the soothing sound of the river lapping against the breakwater. The incessant ringing of mobile phones is an alien sound.

Sulat lost part of its magic for me when my grandparents passed away—first Lolo in 1994 when he was 81 and Lola just last year at 85.

I realized then that my cousins and I had reached a turning point, a time when we had to tell ourselves that we are really adults now, with no Lolo and Lola to run to for iodine to treat a scraped knee, for money to buy "Cokes," or for pleasant conversation by the stairs on a balmy evening about how they fell in love and stayed in love after more than 50 years together.

But my family's laughter-filled memories keep our grandparents alive, and I share part of those memories now with my seven-year-old son Miggy, who continues the tradition of being shipped off to his grandmother, my mother Teresita, for summer vacations.

He swims in that same river now, and runs through the same streets that I did more than 20 years ago.

And I see from his face transfigured by the widest of smiles after coming home from playing with his friends and cousins that he considers this quiet town of Sulat his home, too.

NATURE'S wonder: sunset

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ASIAN and domestic destinations are up for visiting with Philippine Airlines' new Super Saver holiday packages.

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Offers are valid until Aug. 31. For inquiries, e-mail paltourpackage@pal.com.ph or log on to www.philippineairlines.com.

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YOU can also check out the discount delights offered by wholesaler-retailer Adams Express Travel for trips to:

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A side trip to the Holy Land may be arranged with the European tours.

Interested parties are urged to book early because it takes a month to process visas to the Schengen countries. Call 521-1638/98.

Other offers

FOR travel until Sept. 15, Singapore Airlines (SIA) is offering up to 30-percent discount in fares to selected destinations.

Starting at US$199, one can fly from Manila to Singapore and back; $359, to Bali, Bangkok, or Kuala Lumpur; and $399, to Australia (Sydney, Melbourne, Adelaide, Perth and Brisbane), New Zealand (Auckland and Christchurch) and Europe (Amsterdam, Athens, Copenhagen, Frankfurt, Madrid, Manchester, Paris, Rome and Zurich). The fares to Singapore, Bali, Bangkok and Kuala Lumpur include 3-night hotel stay.

Optional stopover in Singapore is priced at US$35 per person, to include 2-night hotel stay, airport transfers, rides on the SIA Hop-on Bus and admission to tourist attractions.

Airfares and packages are available at participating travel agencies or SIA Tours Desk at 751-5151 to 52 or 810-4960 loc 4005-06 (for Southeast Asia packages) and SIA Reservations at 810-4951 to 59 (for other destinations). For departures from Cebu and Davao, call SIA Provincial Reservations in Cebu at (032) 232-6211 and Davao at (082) 224-5608.

Participating agencies are American Express Adventure, Baron Travel, BTI Phils. Marsman, Fortune Travel, Horizon Travel, King of Travel, Las Palmas Tours and Travel, Mondial Travel, Pan Pacific Travel, Philscan Travel, Rajah Tours, Satellite Travel, Thomas Cook, Uni-Orient Travel and Universal Holidays Inc.

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THE 290-ROOM Traders Hotel Manila has announced a 50-percent discount on its Traders Club rooms, which offer a splendid view of the sunset on Manila Bay.

Among the other perks for guests staying at the Traders Club floor are daily complimentary cocktails at the Lounge, daily breakfast, and 2-hour use of the board room (subject to availability).

The discount is available until Dec. 30. For inquiries or reservations, call 527-9107 or 523-6858, or e-mail thmres@shangri-la.com.

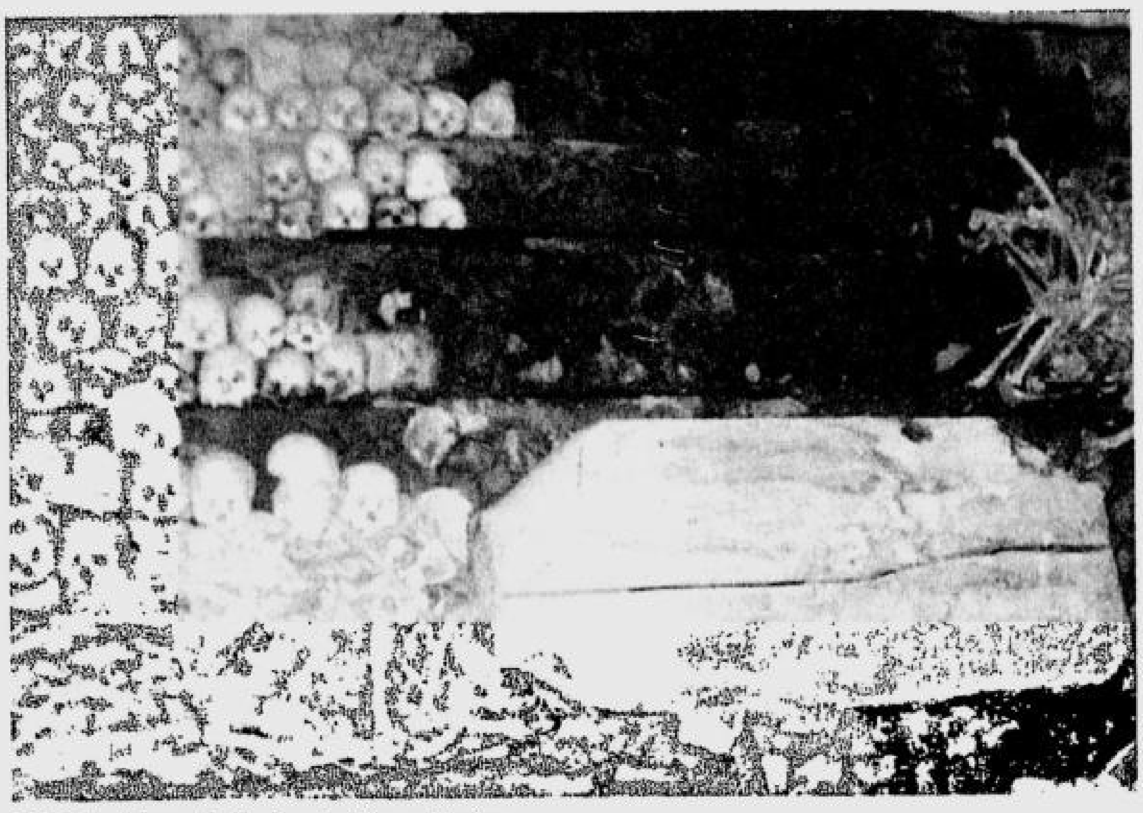
On the trail of the mummies

From page E5

the sun. The outer skin is peeled off by the elders of the community to help in the drying process, without affecting the color of the skin. The sun-drying takes from a month to two years, depending on the family's capacity to hold successive feasts.

Meanwhile, the juice of pounded leaves of the *diwdiw* tree, *besodak* shrub, *kapany* vine and native guava is continuously rubbed over the body. Tobacco smoke is blown into it through the mouth, to preserve the internal tissues and drive out worms.

When the body has dried and can be lifted, it is carried into the cave.



MASS burial cave in the heart of the poblacion

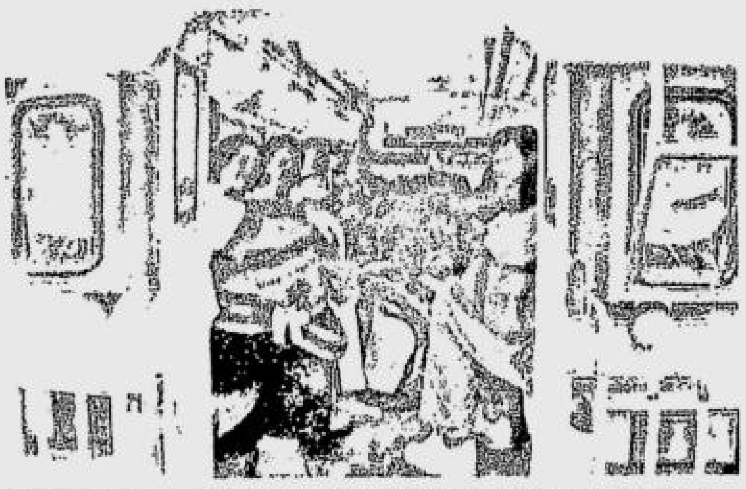
The undead

Only 10 cultures mummified their dead, including the Incas and the Egyptians. It was believed to assure immortality.

In northern Philippines, the mummification process was shared by the Ibalois, Kankana-eys and Kalanguyas of Benguet. The process was passed down through the centuries through oral history.

It could have started in the 12th century. The technique from the 17th century was found defective. The tradition, however, disappeared in the 18th century following the introduction of Christianity into the country.

A film documentary on the Kabayan mummies is now part of the National Geographic Channel's "The Mummy Road Show," a series documenting mummies all over the world. The 30-minute episode "Cave Mummies of the Philippines" will be shown on July 30, Wednesday, 11 p.m., at Star TV.



MEDIA people and mountaineers with **National Geographic Asia's Ritthichart Silaraks** (right)

BABAN Berong tells a strange tale.

As part of the launch of the series' second season, NGC took a group of media people to explore the place on June 18-20. The trip was organized by Agatep & Associates and the Northern Heritage Tours, with members of the Cordillera Mountaineering Club as guides.

"I'm quite impressed," says NGC Asia senior marketing manager Ritthichart Silaraks, after seeing the mummies. "Not many countries preserve their dead, and not as many as here."

He is just as impressed by the fact that in Egypt only royal families were mummified; in Thailand, monks; while here, ordinary people.

And which are the most well-preserved?

"From what I've observed, probably the mummies in Egypt," says Silaraks. "Because it's a dry place, unlike the humidity over here."

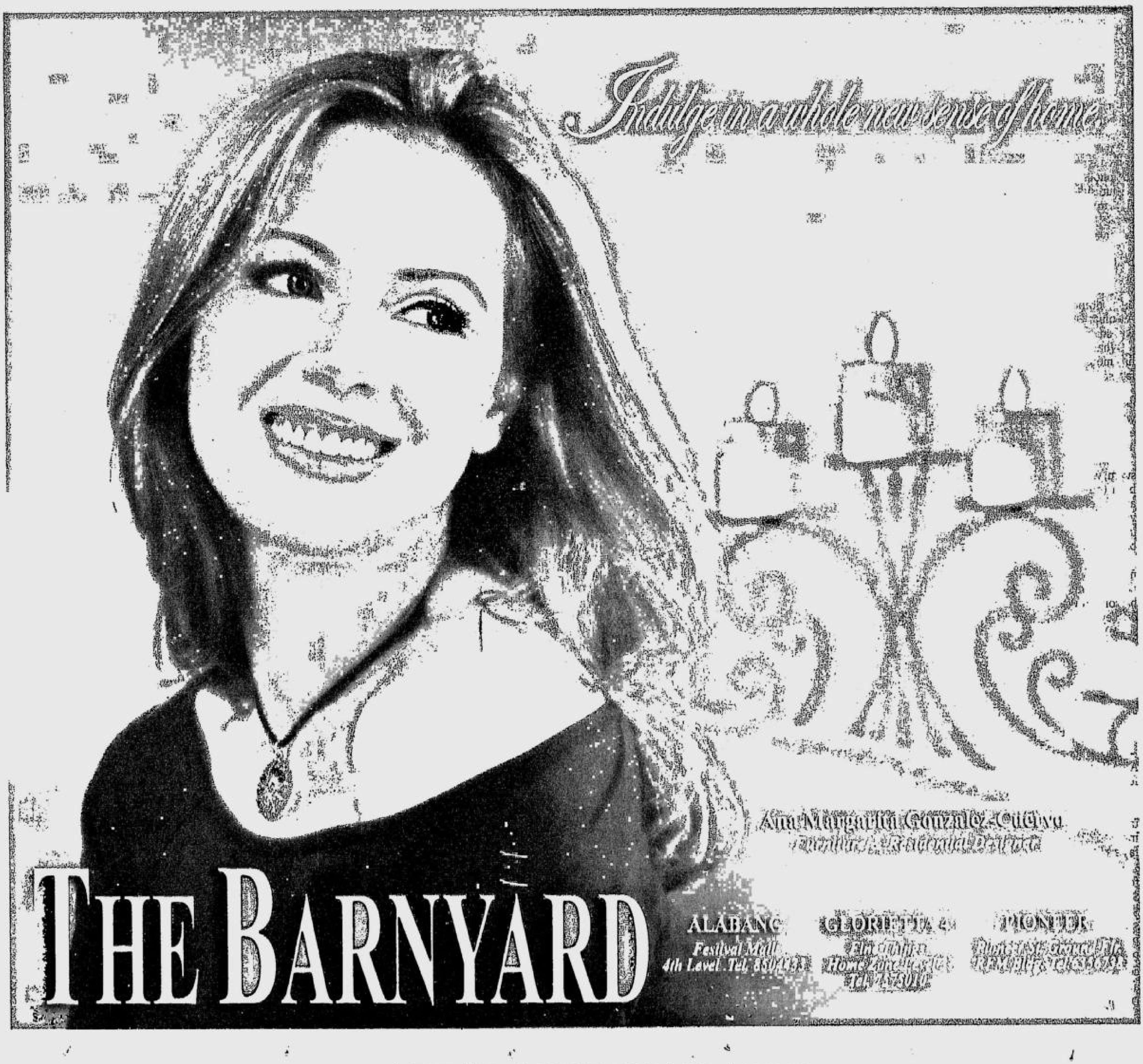
Silaraks, who is Thai, relates that the 12 mummies found in a temple in southern Thailand were said to be monks who had fallen into deep contemplation, thus their body metabolism was slowed down, until they were mummified.

The Kabayan mummies were not quite ordinary folk, though. They were the elite of ancient Benguet society, the wealthy who could afford all the rituals, pomp and paraphernalia for the dead.

Even in ancient times, only the rich could afford to become immortal.

EMERGING from the mummy cave

PREPARING to explore the burial rock



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Batangas City marks foundation day with 'Sublian'

BATANGAS City revives old customs and traditions during the "Sublian Festival" marking the city's 34th Foundation Day.

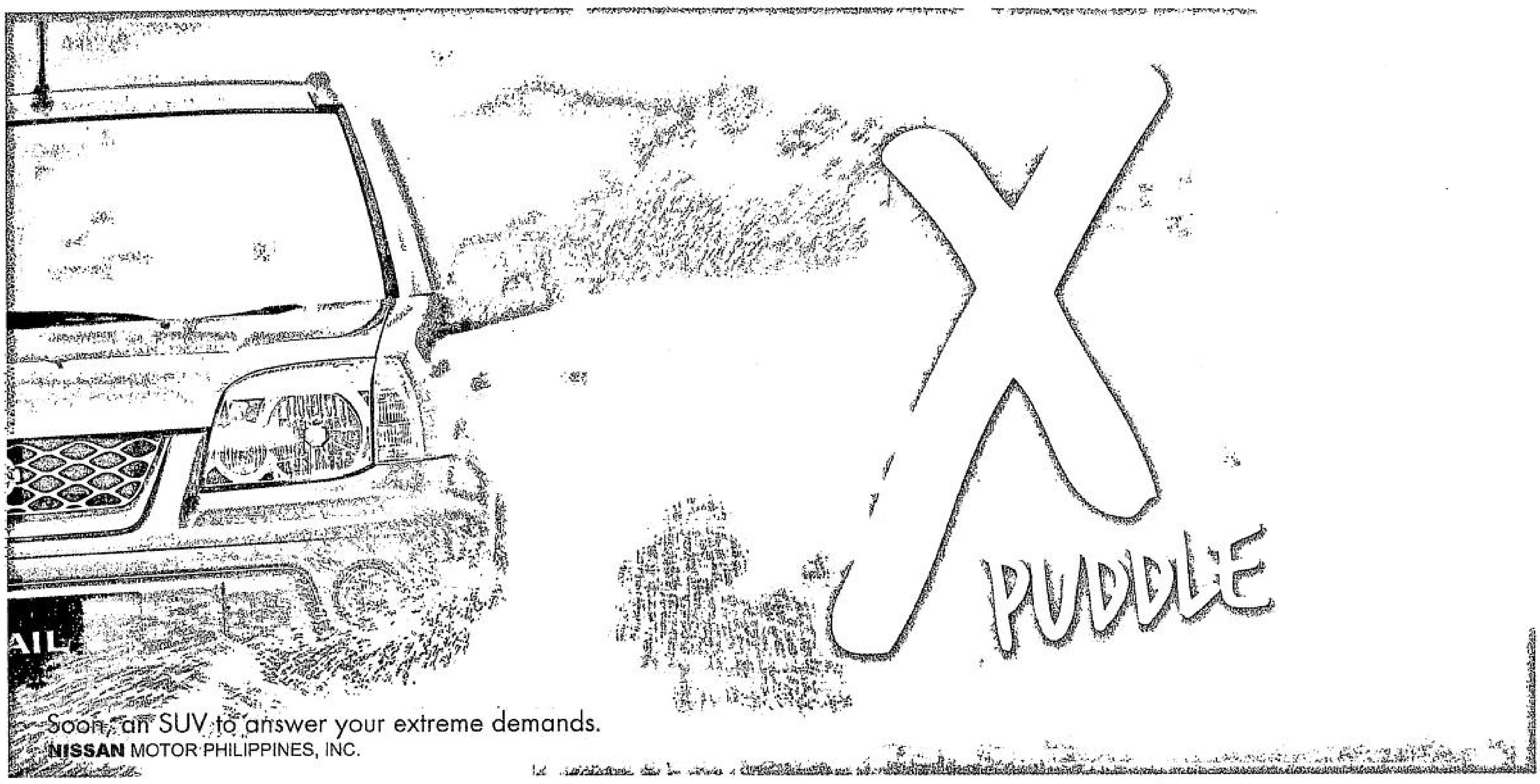
Ongoing until July 23, the festival has for its theme "A Date with Batangueño Traditions". Activities include household serenades, a farm skills Olympics, a *santacruzan*, folk dance competition, recitation of the *lua*, a religious poem, and prayer vigils, among others.

Today, there will be a *Palaro ng Lahi* which will highlight indigenous team games like *patintero, dinuron, culliot, kadang-kadang, tayakad* (rice on stilts), *sabong* (cock fight) and *karera sa sako*(sack race), which are dying because of the advent of Western sports. Other sporting events are a five-kilometer fun run around the city's major streets and a *paraw* regatta on the Calumpang River.

The highlight of the festivity is the Foundation Day Parade and the Sublian sa Kalye on July 23. Participants will parade in native attire and dance the "Subli", a Batangueño liturgical dance. Delegations will be on board carabao-drawn carriages.

After the parade, the public will take part in the *Lupakan*, sampling the local delicacy *nilupak* at the City Hall complex. In the afternoon, folks from the neighboring towns of Lobo, Bauan and Agoncillo will perform the more authentic form of the *Subli* in a competition.

The capital of Batangas province for more than 200 years, Batangas City was chartered on July 23, 1969, birth anniversary of the Sublime Paralytic Apolinario Mabini, brains of the Philippine Revolution. Call 043-7231558.



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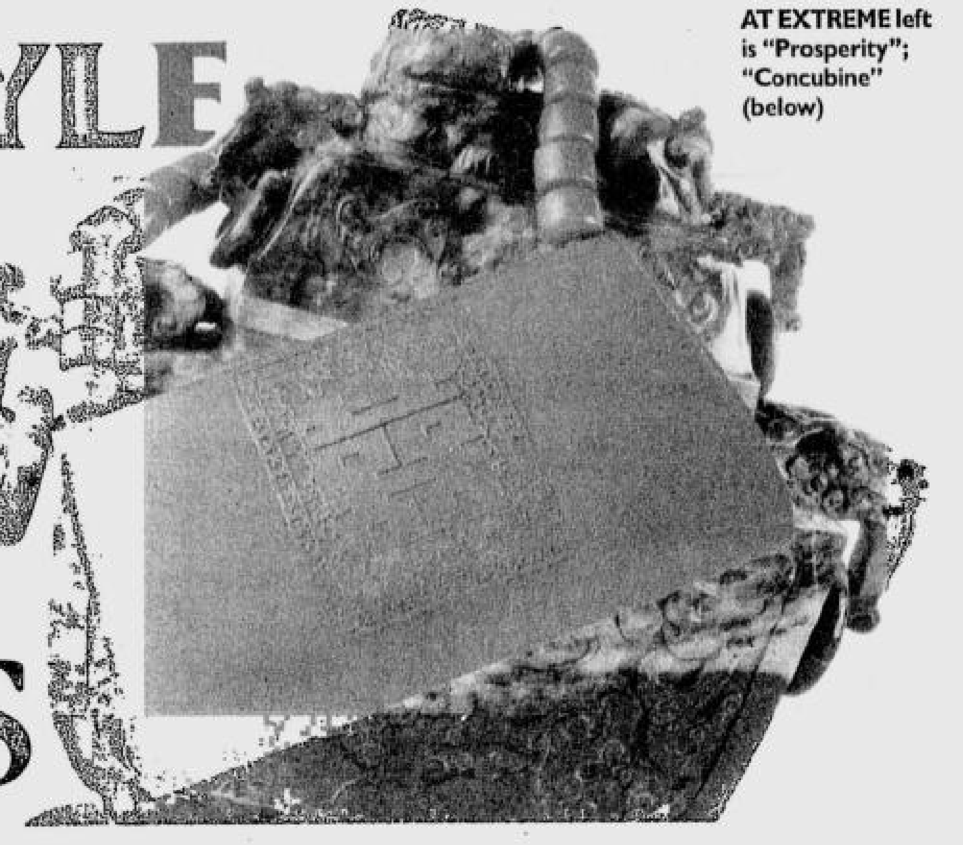


AT EXTREME left is "Prosperity"; "Concubine" (below)

You'd want to be left holding these bags

Rachy Cuna's handmade, one-of-a-kind bags, with the artist's signature, will debut in a shopping fair

IT'S all in the bag now for Rachy Cuna. For his new artistic venture, the well-known floral architect and stylist has come up with a limited collection of bags for a good cause.

The collection will be launched at the opening of Shopping Carnival, a shopping extravaganza to be held Aug. 1-3 at World Trade Center, Roxas Boulevard, for the benefit of Bantay Bata 163.

The latest venture is just the latest in Cuna's artistic voyage that brought him from floral to interior design, from event styling to painting, from food design to fashion.

In this new artistic path, Cuna, an avid collector of Oriental art, falls back on his hobby to come up with his collectible pieces. The bags represent a treasure trove of Oriental symbolisms, with emphasis on the quest for prosperity, wisdom, good health and happiness.

Each piece in the collection is handmade, one-of-a-kind and signed by the artist. But while the bags are indeed works of art; they are also functional.

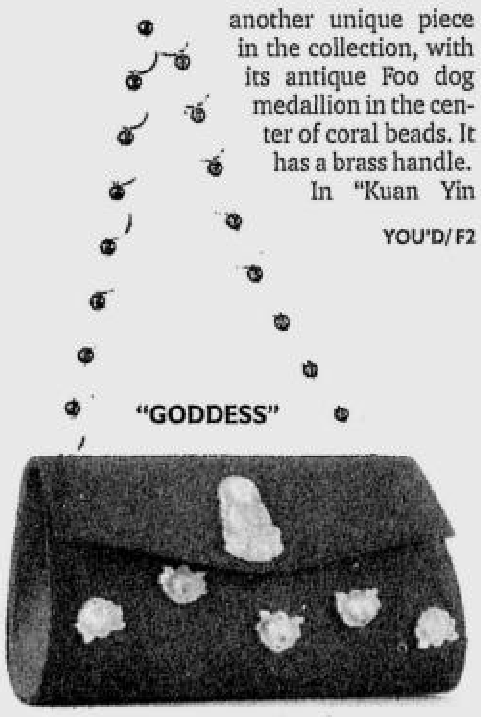
Made of silk shantung in solid colors, specifically midnight black, passion red and emerald green, each bag is full of eastern charms. For instance, one bag Cuna calls "Double Happiness" is embossed with the Chinese symbol for abundance. A string of crystal beads, larger than marbles, serves as its handle, accented on both sides with bone beads in a cloud pattern.

The "Buddha Bag" is like a sculpture with the likeness of Buddha in southern China green jade as its centerpiece. A brass handle in the shape of a Chinese character gives a gilded effect.

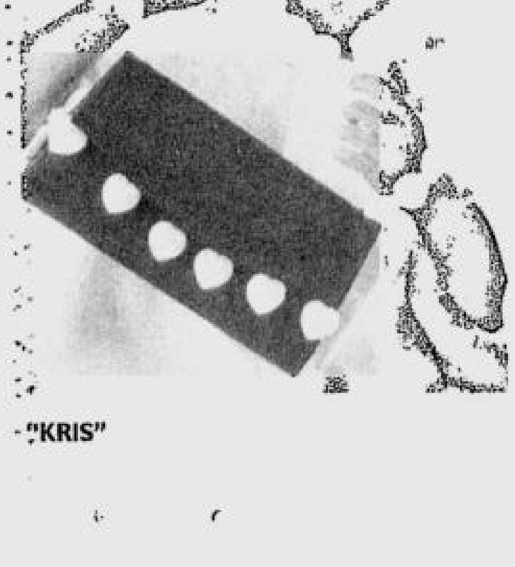
"Tibetan Charm" is another unique piece in the collection, with its antique Foo dog medallion in the center of coral beads. It has a brass handle.

In "Kuan Yin

YOU'D/ F2



"GODDESS"



"KRIS"

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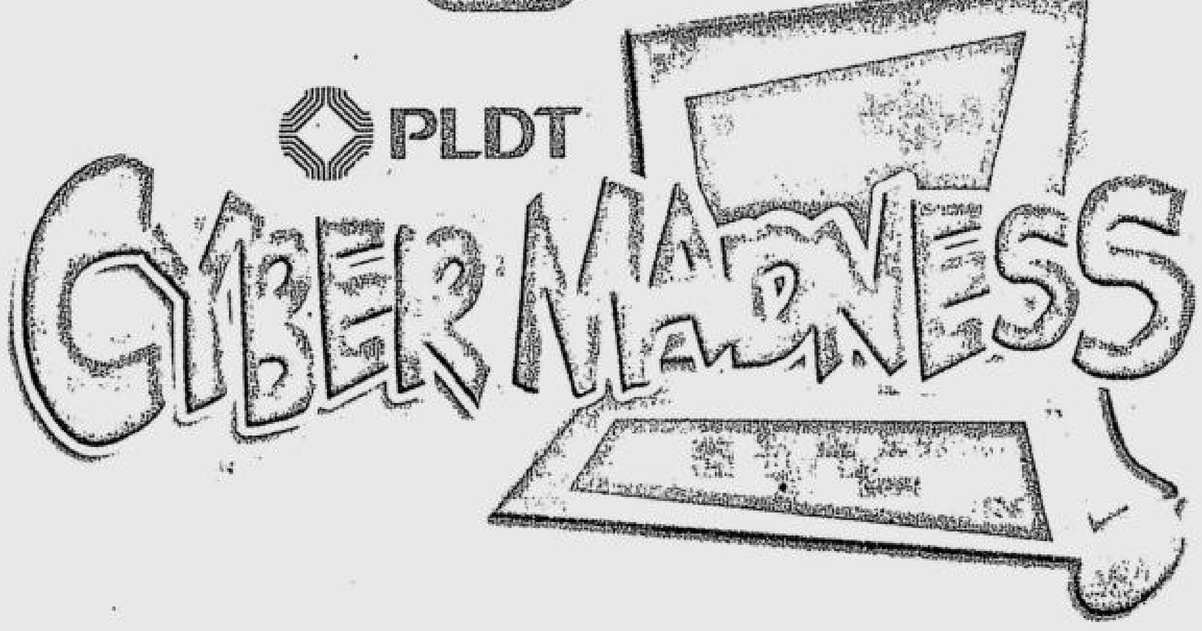

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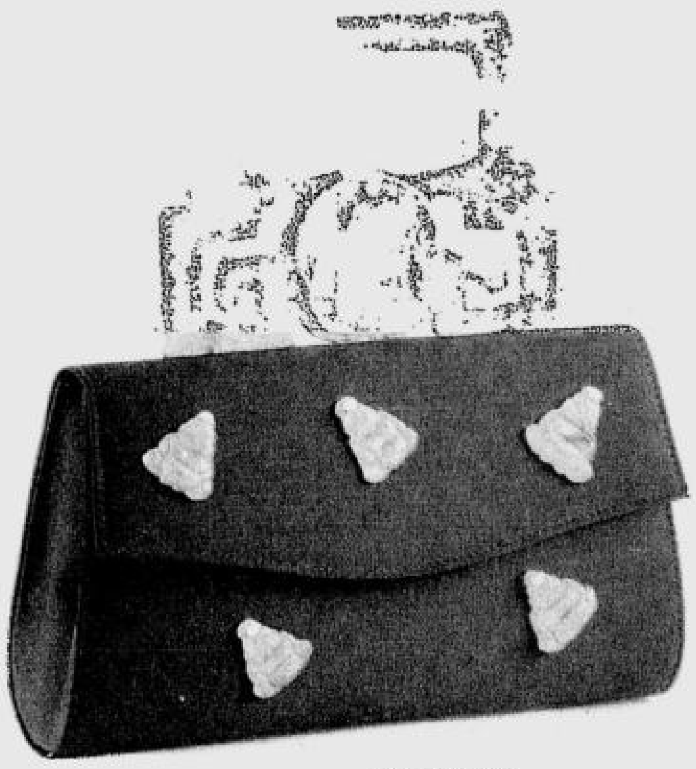

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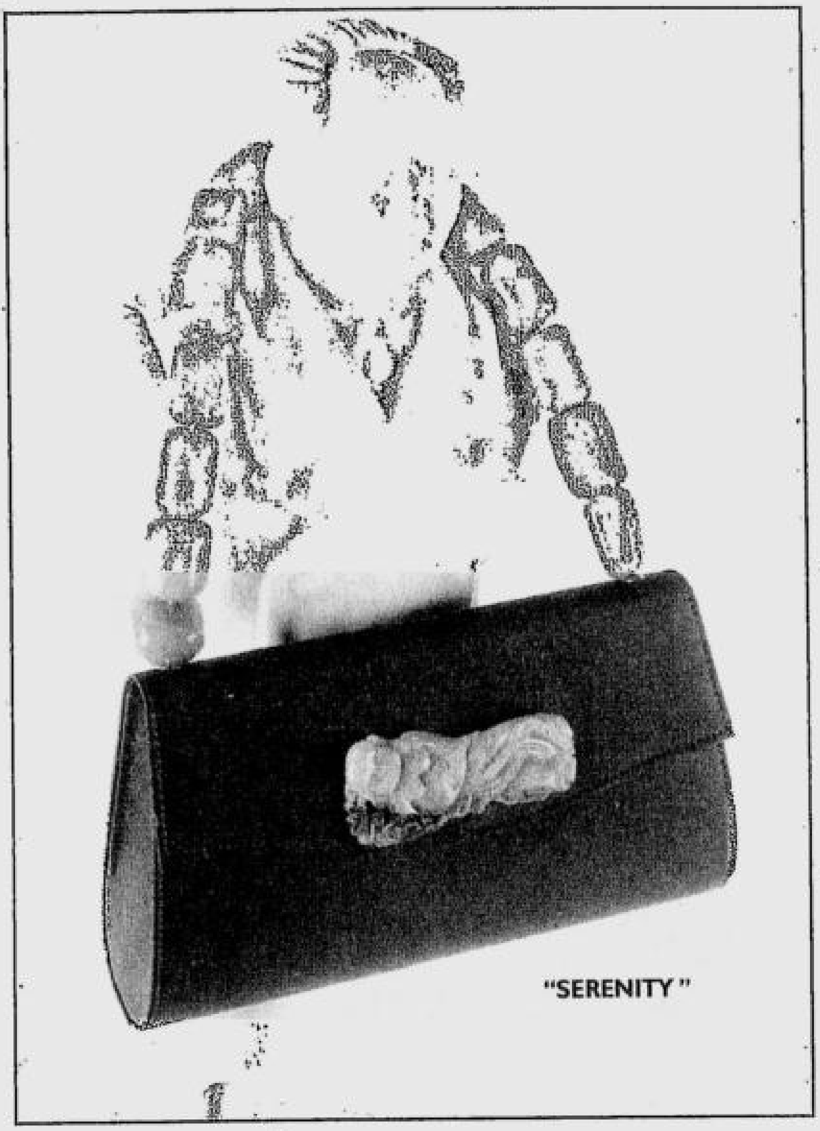

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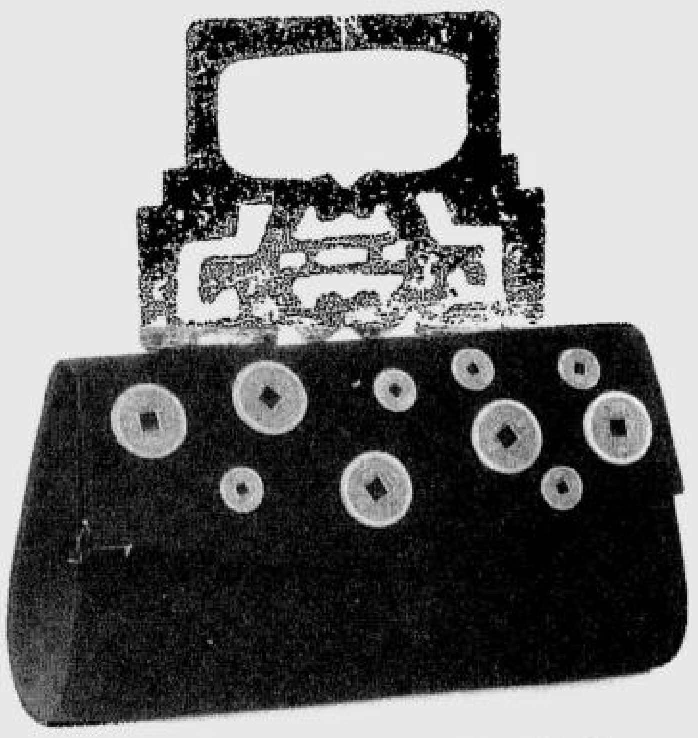
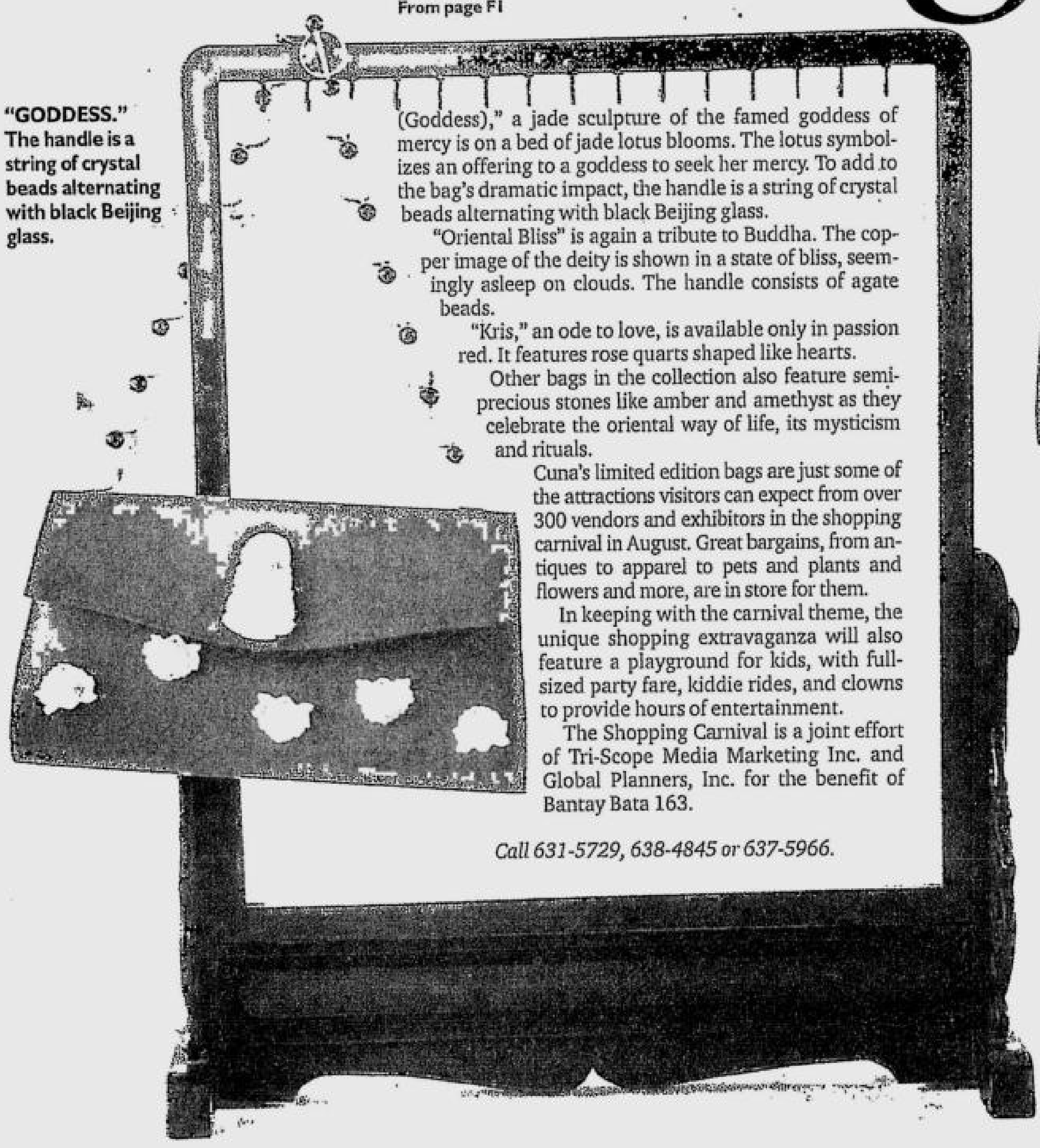


"PROSPERITY"

You'd want to be left holding these bags

From page F1



"GODDESS." The handle is a string of crystal beads alternating with black Beijing glass.

(Goddess)," a jade sculpture of the famed goddess of mercy is on a bed of jade lotus blooms. The lotus symbolizes an offering to a goddess to seek her mercy. To add to the bag's dramatic impact, the handle is a string of crystal beads alternating with black Beijing glass.

"Oriental Bliss" is again a tribute to Buddha. The copper image of the deity is shown in a state of bliss, seemingly asleep on clouds. The handle consists of agate beads.

"Kris," an ode to love, is available only in passion red. It features rose quarts shaped like hearts.

Other bags in the collection also feature semi-precious stones like amber and amethyst as they celebrate the oriental way of life, its mysticism and rituals.

Cuna's limited edition bags are just some of the attractions visitors can expect from over 300 vendors and exhibitors in the shopping carnival in August. Great bargains, from antiques to apparel to pets and plants and flowers and more, are in store for them.

In keeping with the carnival theme, the unique shopping extravaganza will also feature a playground for kids, with full-sized party fare, kiddie rides, and clowns to provide hours of entertainment.

The Shopping Carnival is a joint effort of Tri-Scope Media Marketing Inc. and Global Planners, Inc. for the benefit of Bantay Bata 163.

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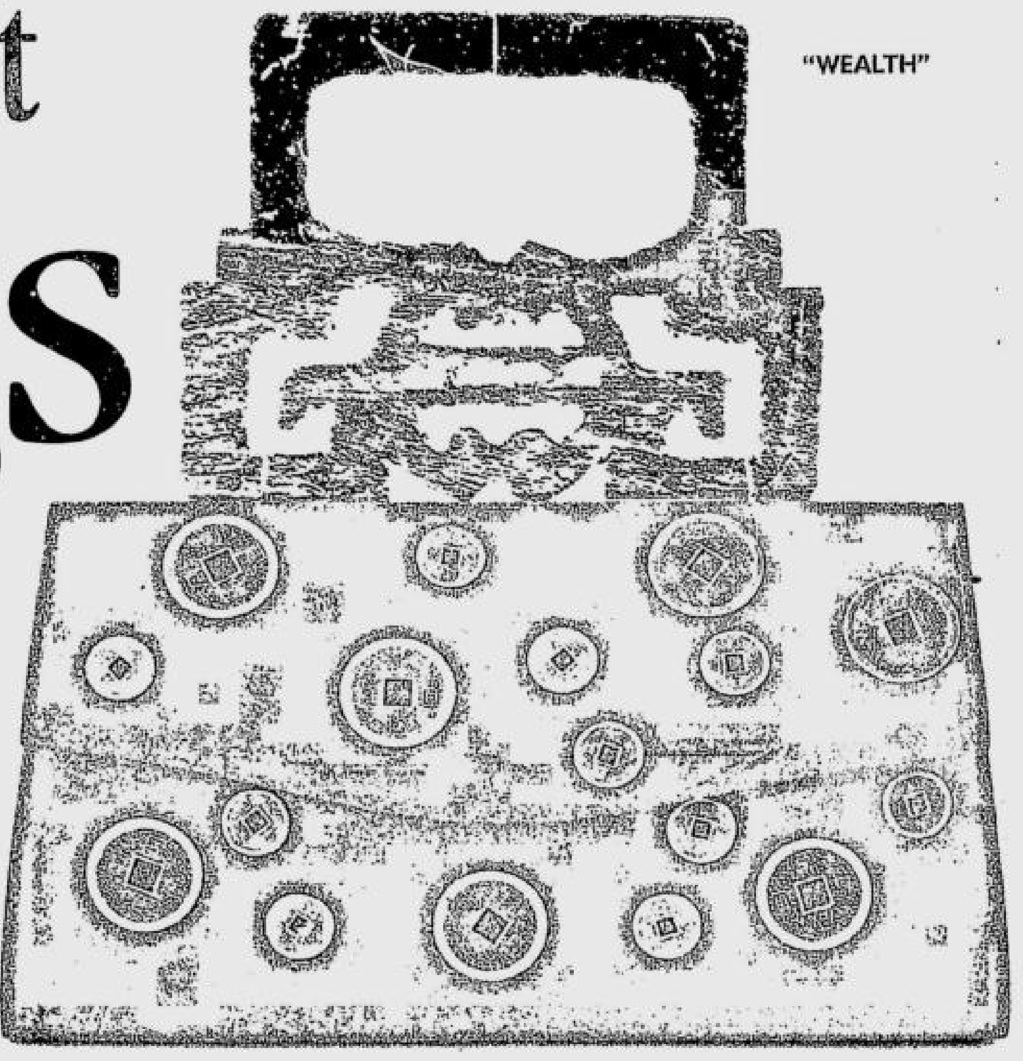

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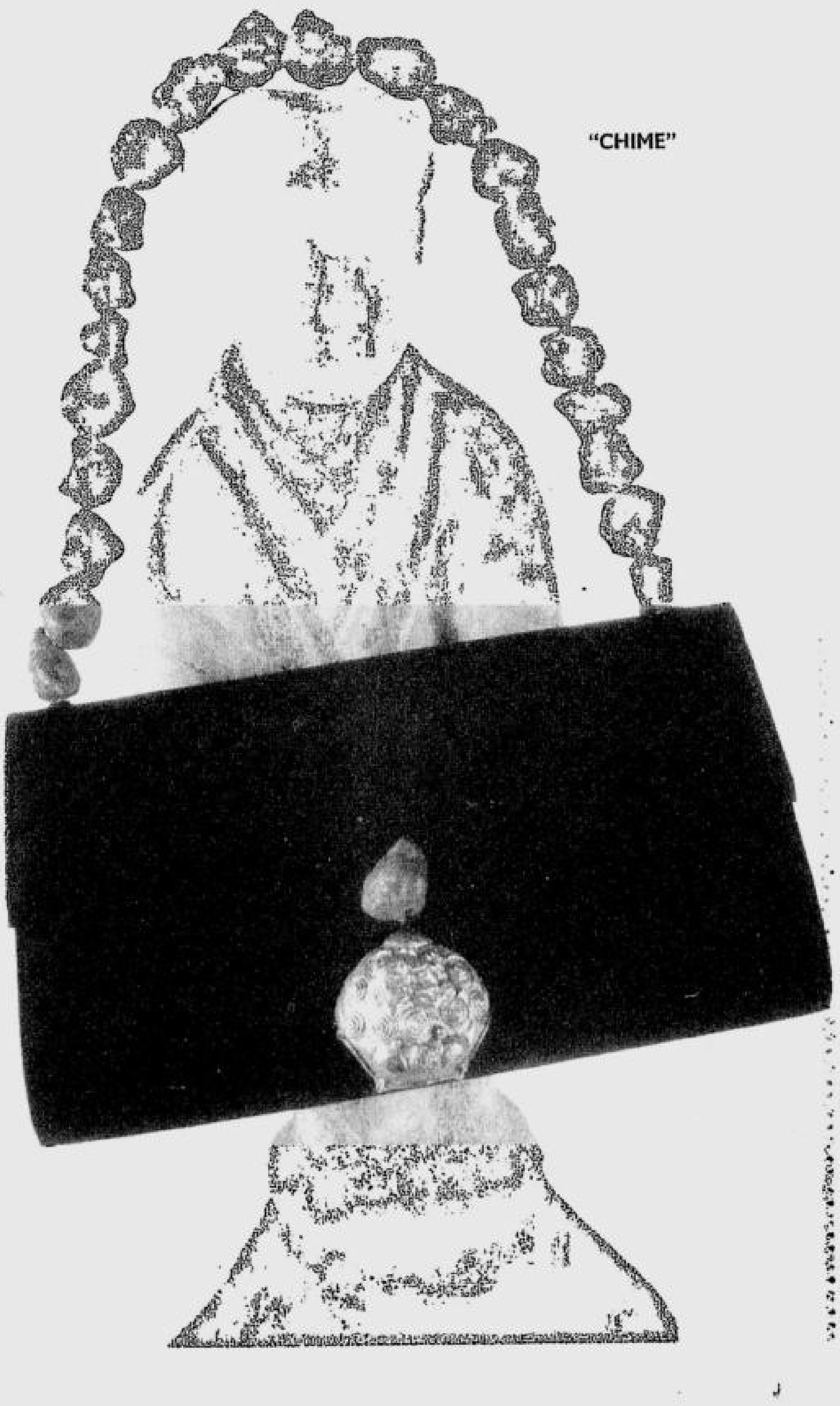

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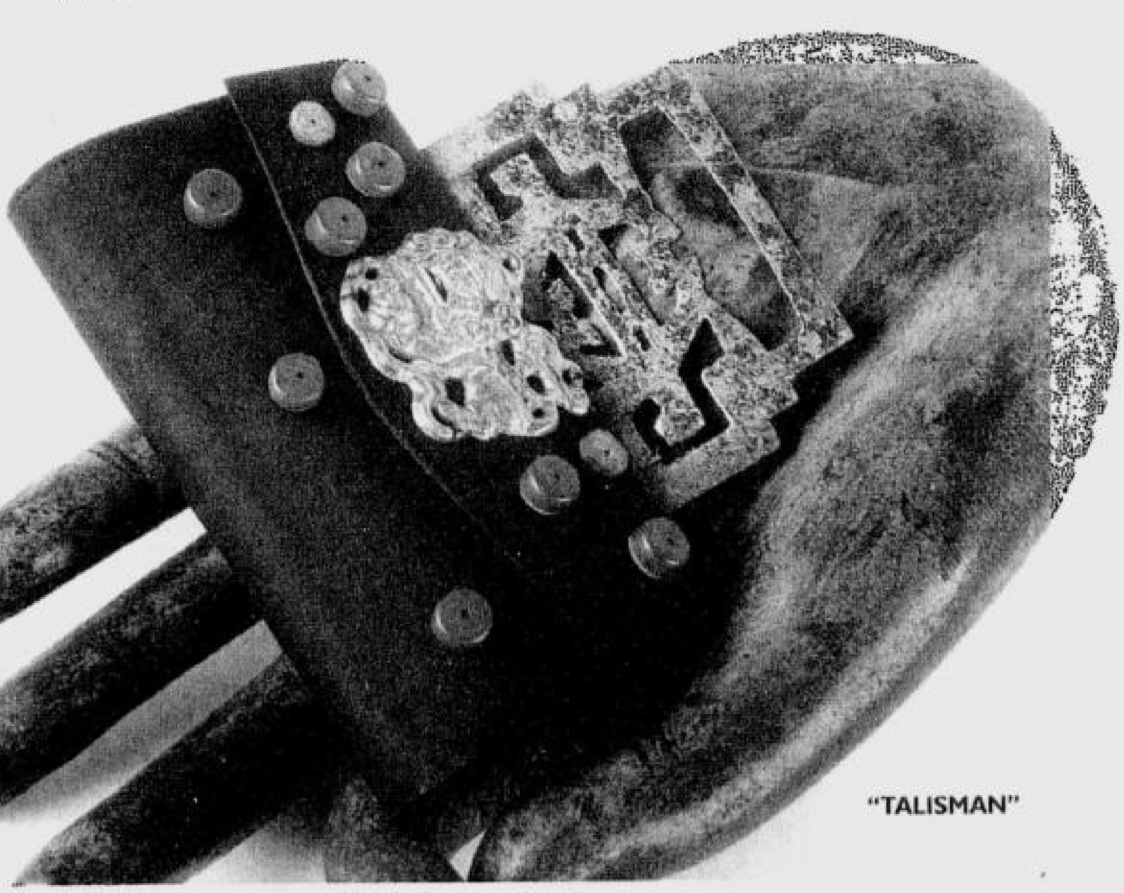
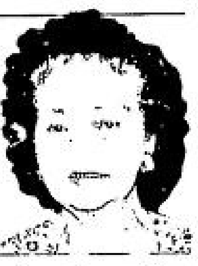


"TALISMAN"

Mother isn't to blame for her daughters' falling for rogues

LIVE AND LET LIVE



Tita Dulce

DEAR Tita Dulce,

I think you were too kind to the mother who wrote about her three daughters ("Daughters falling for rogues," 05/23/03).

The mom in that story blames herself, of course, when the blame, as I see it, rests with the daughters. Hormonal young ladies who eschew "safe-bet" guys for the oddballs, the losers, even the abusers is nothing new.

Half of all marriages in the United States end in divorce because of what they call "irreconcilable differences". One person is usually trying to, as you put it, "save" another person "from the world and his or herself"... and failing. (The bed, as a solution, gets old).

In that column, I see three daughters who have let hormones (romance?) overrule the skills, common sense and sensibilities their mom worked hard to instill in them. For 20 years! So that, instead of hooking up with "losers", they would be smart enough to choose a man like their father who spends his life putting duty and responsibility above everything by working overseas, alone. However, this did not happen.

The three loser-boyfriends are nothing like their dad: one has a temper problem on top of a former drug problem. Another trashed the oldest daughter by spreading false stories about her chastity. The third decided to go home to grandma—what we call "Mama's Boy" in America.

You went on to say that their mom could get rid of those men by tactfully giving the daughters other activities to avoid physical intimacies with (the boyfriends). If the mom can figure out a way to do that, she will be the first I ever heard of. Good luck!

In the US, not here, moms have a "secret weapon" that usually keep hormonal, antsy daughters "in line", away from loveable bums who need "saving" and "understanding" (and their daughters' bodies, of course).

You don't "go home" when you screw up in the US. You make your bed and then lie in it. The "American way" works for me.

I think that mom needs (and deserves) a life of her own. She has done her job, raised her three daughters, endured separation from her OFW husband, sacrificed her life like good mothers do. She did it all.

If the daughters want to be "adults" and make "adult decisions (and mistakes)", so be it. In the US, the choice is theirs: to make responsible choices about men while living at home, or make "a home elsewhere".

The mom in that story needs a break. The three daughters need to get a life and grow up.

ELLIOT ANDERSON
(Father of a 19-year-old daughter)
Pan-ay Clarin, Misamis
Occidental,7201

Thank you for expressing the other side. As always, there are two sides to a coin. I'm sure readers will agree with you, but there is also a chance that many will not. They can tell you their reactions, since you gave your full address.

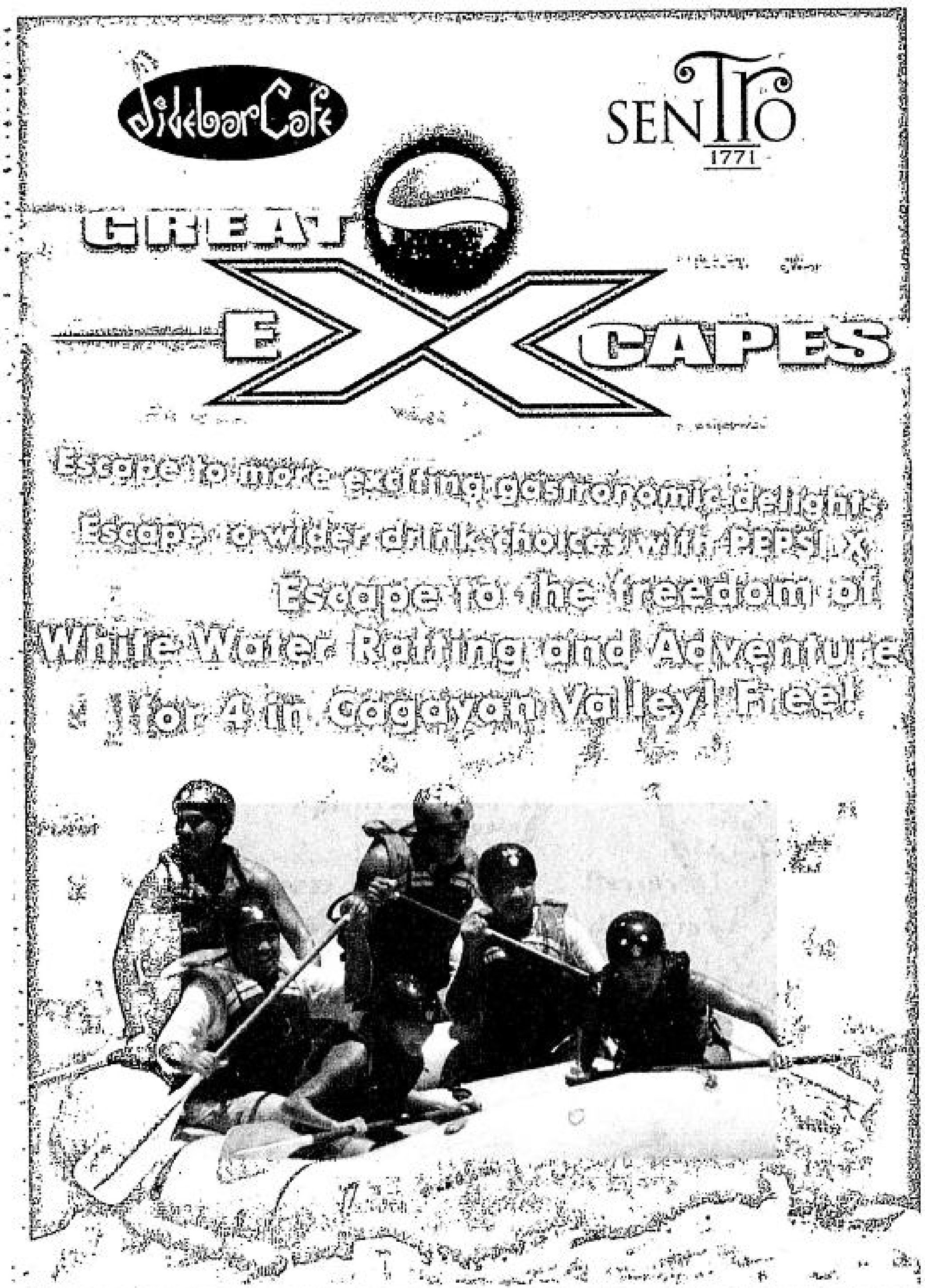
Child has hernia

May I ask for your advice and assistance? I'm the mother of a one-year-old child who has hernia. We do not have the funds for the operation. My husband is a security guard and I am an office secretary here in Meycauayan. Thank you, and God bless.

ELYN P. CARLOS
Juan Santiago Apartment
Bahay Pare, Sto. Nino 3020
Meycauayan, Bulacan

I shortened your letter, which was written in Pilipino. My suggestion is to bring the child to the Out-Patient Department of the Philippine General Hospital here in Manila. Ask your boss for advice on how to apply for a loan. In the PGH, there is a charity ward.

Good luck.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New gadget for trendsetters

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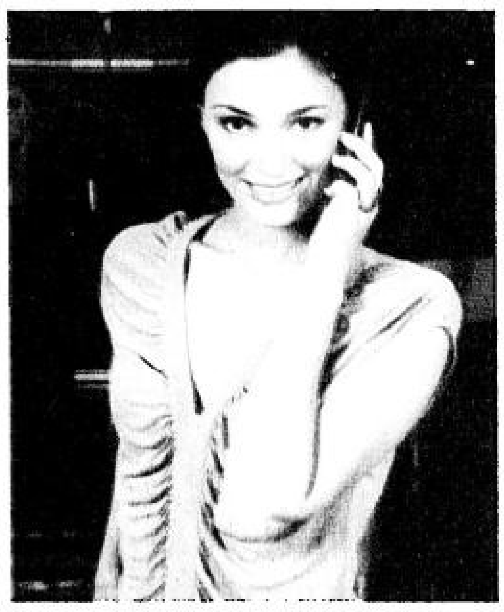

PROJECT megawatt style in a silk crepe V-neck with ruching from the DKNY Spring 2003 collection.

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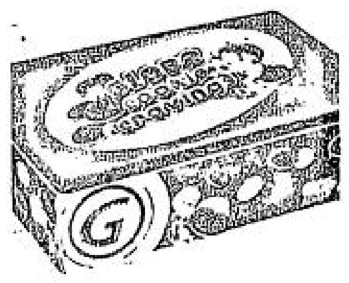

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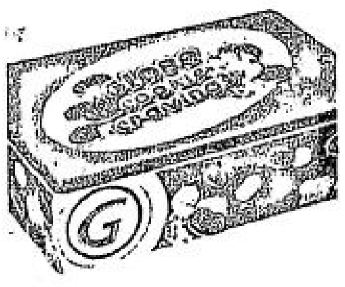

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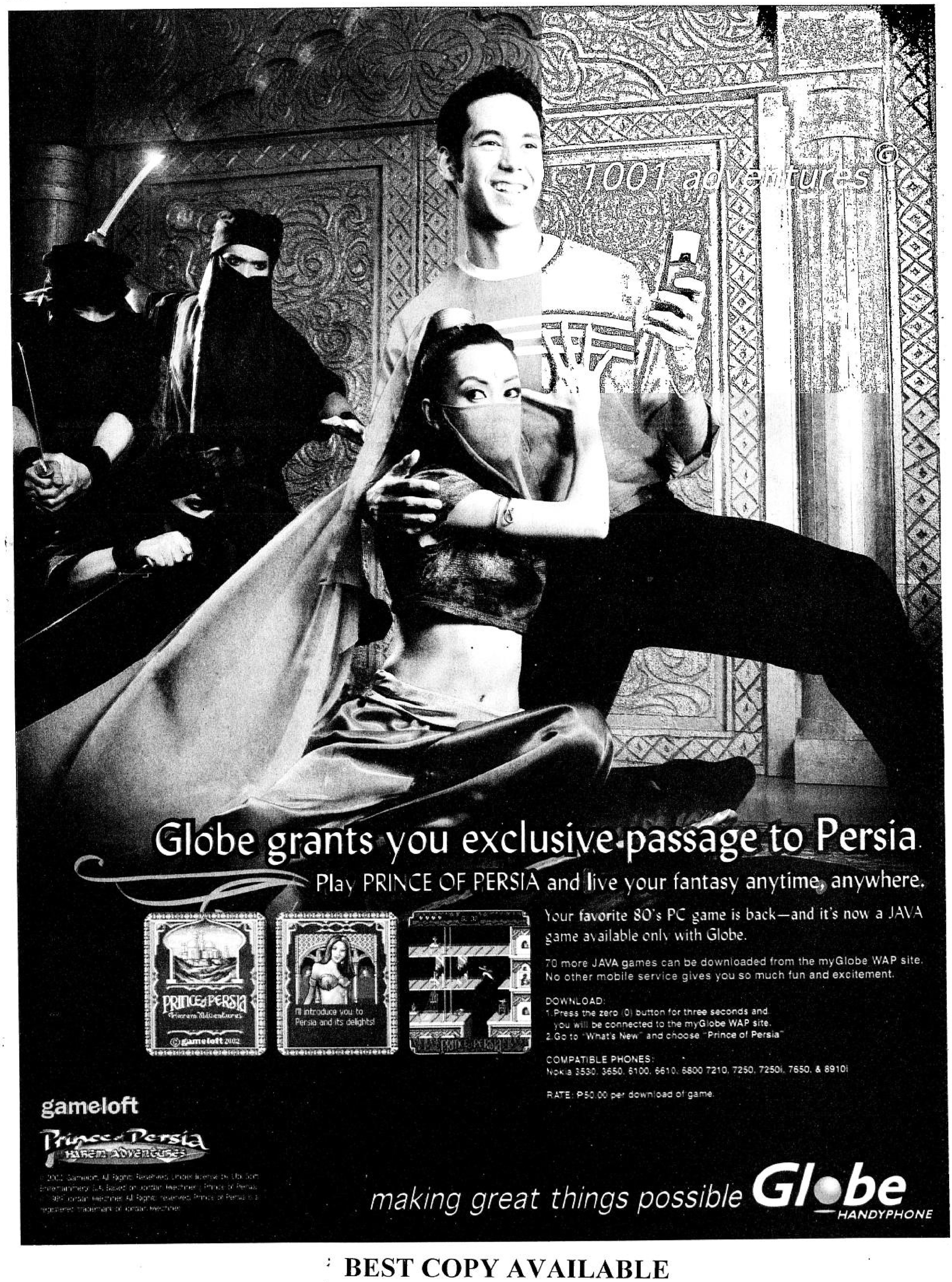
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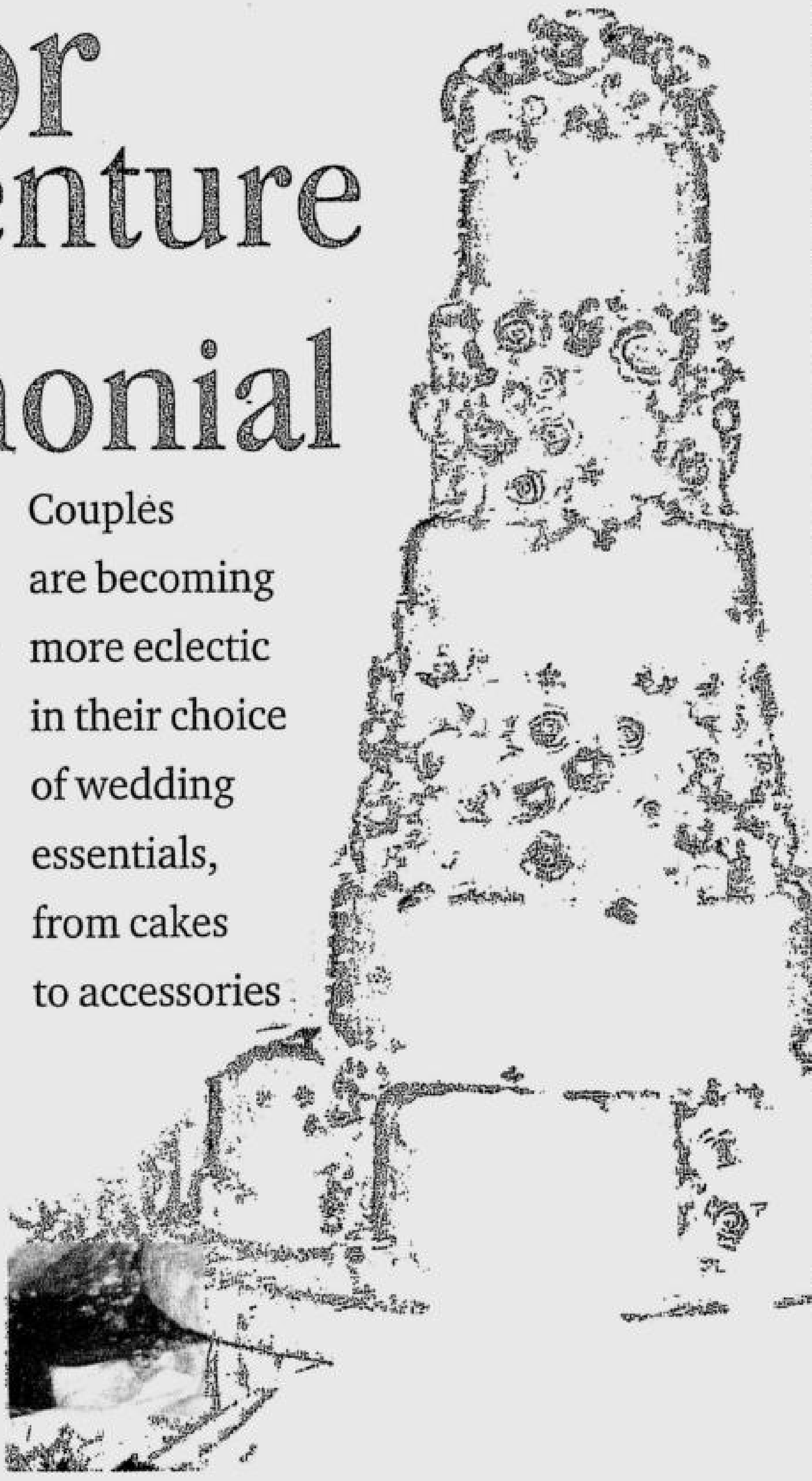
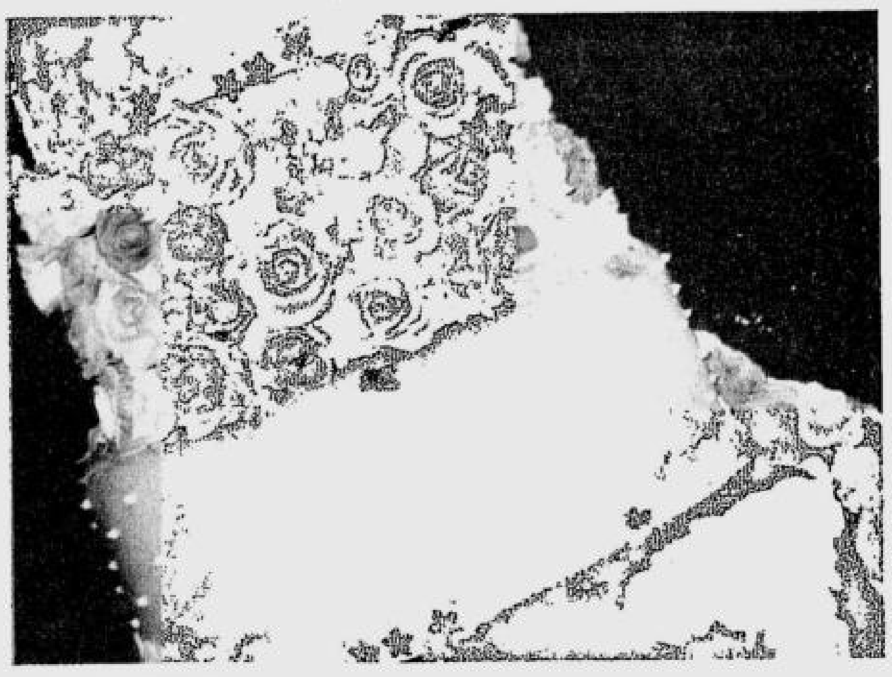
Sunday LifeStyle

Weddings Engagements

Color and adventure on the matrimonial aisle





PINK GARDEN. A towering four-layered cake decorated with life-like edible sugar flowers

Couples are becoming more eclectic in their choice of wedding essentials, from cakes to accessories

By Jasmine W. Payo

PLANNING a wedding can be very tedious and stressful. There are a lot of logistics to work on that can turn some women into frazzled brides.

Thus, convenience is paramount for soon-to-wed couples. With busy careers and other demands, many take time to check out bridal events and one-stop wedding shops, such as the recent "An Affair to Remember" wedding fair held at the Alabang Town Center.

The event made finding reliable and reputable wedding suppliers easier by gathering many of them in one venue. From bridal cars to makeup and accessories to audio-video wedding packages, couples had the chance to tick off items on their wedding checklist.

"For any couple getting married, if you find the supplier that you're comfortable with and you want to work with that person, book him or her right away. You can book six months to a year before to make sure he or she is available on your wedding day," advised Judy Uson of The Cake Artist.

Colorful cakes

As one of the prominent features of the wedding celebration, the cake is up there on any couple's wedding-planner list. And with choices now beyond the traditional white wedding cake, finding the "perfect" one takes time.

"Filipino couples are getting more adventurous because they have more options now. Unlike before, say 10 or 15 years ago, when the only wedding cakes you saw in the market were white ones with lots of ribbons and icing.

"But now, fondant is a very popular material because you can go wild with the design and color. It's a flexible medium to work with," said Uson.

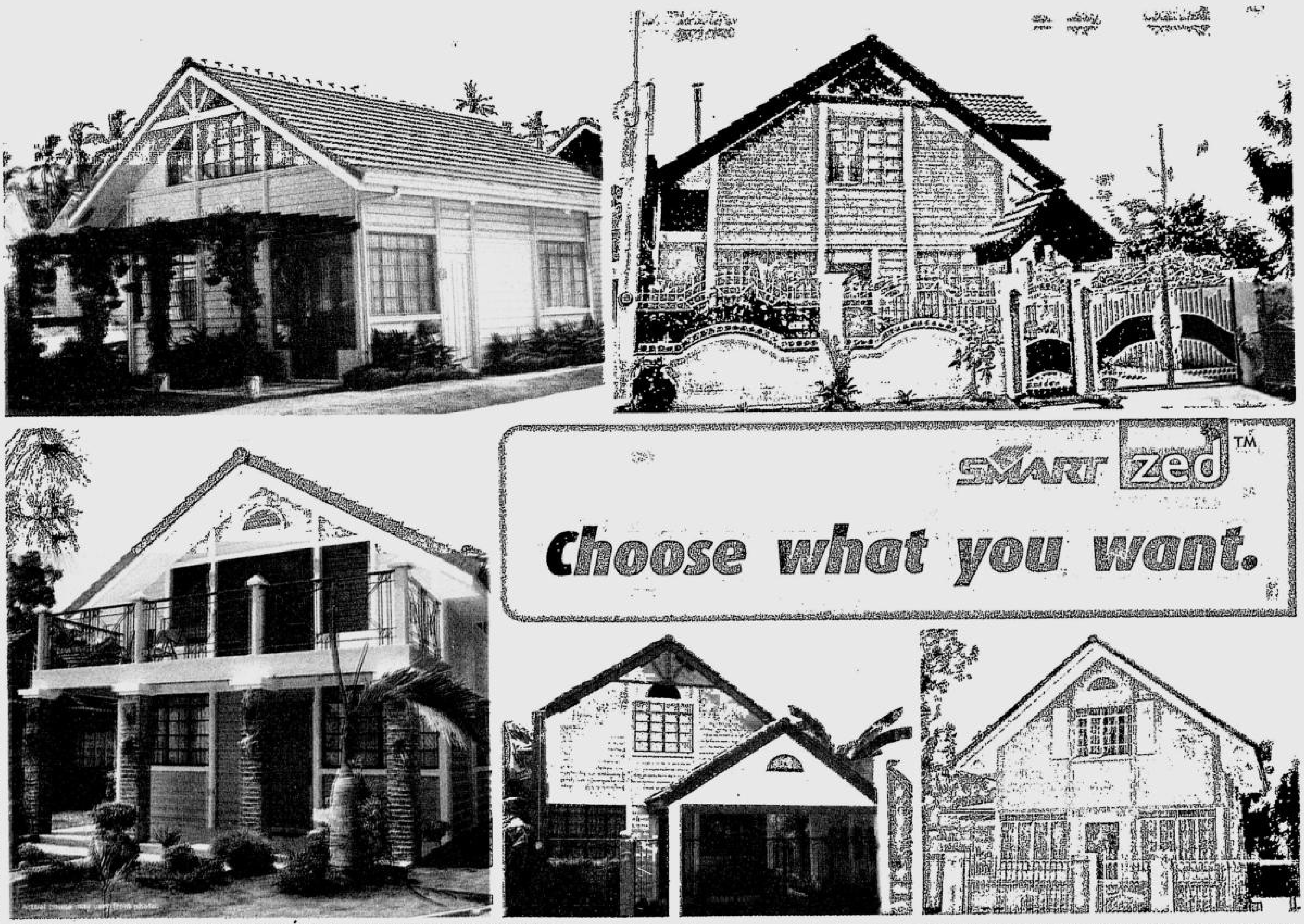
Uson considers every cake order a personal project. Except for a few assistants, she designs, bakes and delivers the cakes herself.

"Since the business bears my name, I want to have quality control," she said.

With Uson's artistic skills, couples can do more than just point and choose from the cake catalog.

"Since I am not a mass producer of cakes, I really try to customize the cake depending on the personality of the couple. Sometimes I can gauge if this couple is [into] conservative or classic or modern design, but I have to talk to

COLOR/ G2



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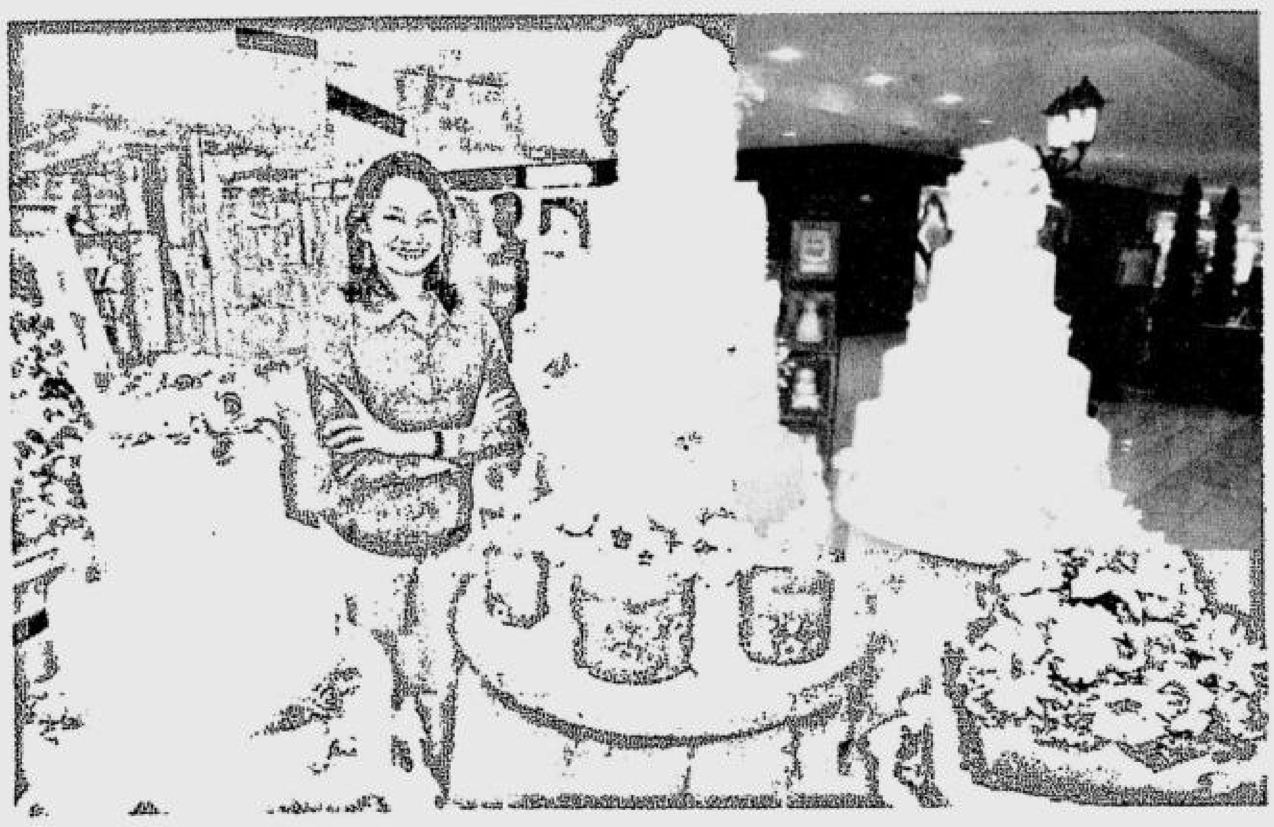
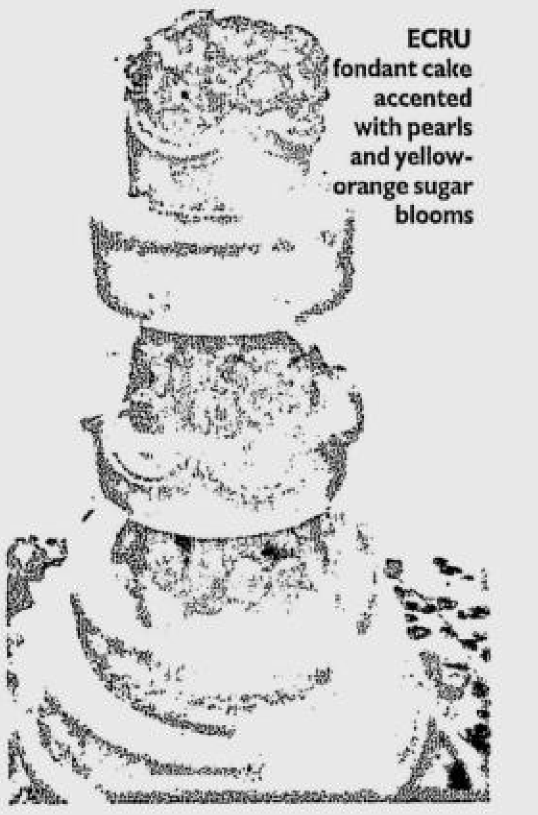
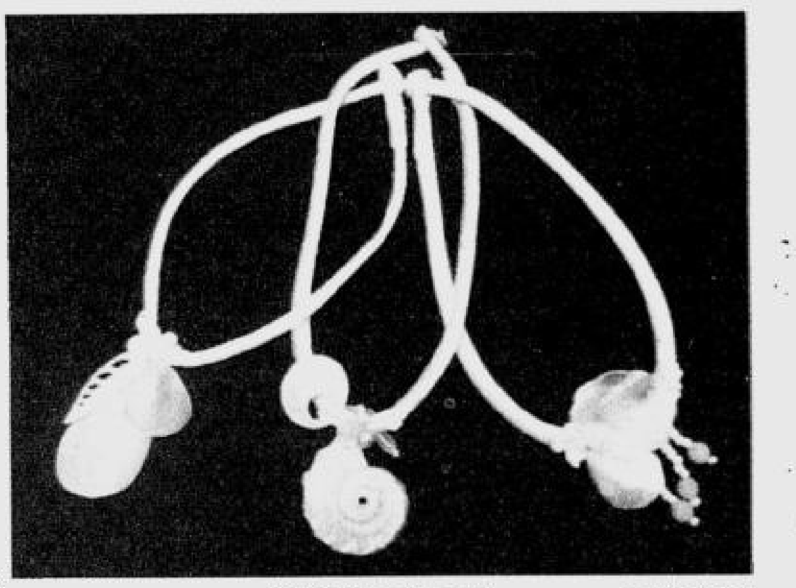

CAKE ARTIST. Judy Uson with her fondant creations


ECRU fondant cake accented with pearls and yellow-orange sugar blooms

WIRED pearl necklace with shell pendants

Color and adventure on the matrimonial aisle


SHELLS in satin cord

BETOY JOHNSON

PEARLS and shells in eclectic shapes and sizes

From page G1

them and know what they like, or whether their wedding is themed or a simple one.

"But every time, the personality of the couple really comes out in their choice of wedding cake," she said.

Right now, the most popular feature on Uson's wedding cakes is the flower decor.

"I get a lot of requests on my sugar flowers. They are all edible and handmade. Some of them actually have to touch it to make sure that they're not real. It makes the wedding cake more interesting."

CHOKER and bracelet in rose quarts and crystals

One-of-a-kind accents

Aside from wedding cakes, the wedding fair showcased other things—accessories, for instance—that can make a wedding unique and leave a lasting impression on guests.

Although brides traditionally wear pearls and diamonds, colored stones have become a popular alternative.

Lumen Pabol of Shambala, a Cebu-based ethnic accessory shop, shared that in the past years they've been surprisingly getting orders for weddings.

"Brides have become interested with our necklaces, chokers and bracelets. We've supplied accessories for the entourage. Some also order in bulk for wedding souvenirs," she said.

Owned by German national Ursula Schloer Aznar, Shambala offers necklaces, bracelets, chokers and earrings made of broken shells, leftover mother-of-pearls, rose quartz, crystals and semiprecious stones such as peridot, turquoise, amethyst and jasper.

Wired piece by piece, their eclectic shapes and colors make one-of-a-kind wedding accents.

"We leave them in their natural shapes, the way they were found," said Pabol.

Wearing Shambala's handmade pieces is definitely a detour from the understated, simple and classic bridal look. But this is the main reason some women buy them.

"Many brides like it because the designs are very exclusive. They want to look different on their wedding day," said Pabol.

Contact The Cake Artist at telefax 430-8512, mobile no. 0917-8975839 or e-mail judyuson@jeepney.ph; Shambala at 700-4685 (Manila), 272-8329 (Cebu) or e-mail nomades@skyinet.net

Celestial debut for Abalos twins

MANDALUYONG City Mayor Benhur Abalos and his wife, Menchie, chose a celestial motif for the 18th birthday of their twin daughters, Ciara and Charisse.

Ciara was dazzling in blue and Charisse shone in yellow in gowns designed by Joji Aguilar. Hair and makeup were by Mi Arte Salon.

The twin debut was held at the Isla Ballroom of Edsa Shangri-La Plaza, which was transformed into a celestial place with moons and suns in different sizes.

Arriving guests got free tattoos of shining stars, suns and moons. Their fortune was told by Madam X, and on-the-spot self-portraits and caricatures were made by known artists. A special corner was for make-a-wish, get-a-wish cards.

Performers included the fast-rising boy band Akafellas and Edwynn de Castillo, the twins' piano teacher. Also in the program was a skit and a video presentation produced by Charisse and Ciara themselves with Dominic Velasco of Imacron and featuring immediate members of the family and close friends.

The cotillion was performed to the tune of "Indaclub" by Busta Rhymes and "I know what you want" by Mariah Carey and Busta Rhymes, and choreographed by Wilson Ong of the dance group Whiplash.

Participants in the cotillion de honor were Stephen Ang, Mark Dee, Adrian Go, Byron Hontiveros, Junichi Kato, Junnosuke Kato, Adrian Chin, Ryan Yam, John Yu, Karen Bordador, Karen Evangelista, Sarah Morales, Mia Ostrea, Cristina Ramirez, Meg Racho and Monica Sebial.

THE ABALOS family

For Cassiopeians (treasures): Girlie Abalos, Michelle Alejo, Isabel Camacho, Rosette Chua, Mayene dela Cruz, Tala Fernando, Josan Gallo, Cesca Huang, Pammy Martinez, Luisa Moran, Karla Nable, Pamela Punzalan, Bea Ravago, Cheska Respicio, Lala Rosales, Debbie Serranilla, Celine Sugay, Abigail Tabares, Maila Tirados and Joy Yatco.

For Orions (roses): Benjamin Abalos III, Benjamin Abalos Jr., Benjamin Abalos Sr., Nestor Aguilar, Stephen Ang, Christopher Cheng, Adrian Chin, Adrian Go, Byron Hontiveros, Junichi Kato, Junnosuke Kato, Mark Dee, Raymond Sy, John Yu, Richmond Tan, Rudolph Tan, Ryan Yam and Ronald Yu.

THE DEBUTANTES with the cotillion de honor

For Vegans (candles): Karen Bordador, Caitlyn Chan, Tintin Cheng, Kristine dela Cruz, Karen Evangelista, Michelle Guballa, Mara Guevarra, Allue Hortaleza, Luzee Liban, Sarah Morales, Johanna Ong, Mia Ostrea, Meg Racho, Cristina Ramirez, Krizia Raymundo, Eirenne Reyes, Monica Sebial and Karen Velarde.

Among those who welcomed the guests were the debutantes' grandparents, Commission on Elections chair Benjamin Abalos and wife, Cora (who delivered the opening prayer); and Mr. and Ms Nestor Aguilar, as well as great-grandmother Lola Senyang.

Guests included Customs commissioner Tony Bernardo, Metro Manila Development Authority chair Bayani Fernando and wife, Marikina Mayor Maridez, Catanduanes Governor Lee Verceles, Rep. Boyet Gonzales, Public Works and Highways Undersecretary Cesar Lacuna, Press Undersecretary Ching Suva, Assistant Secretary Robert Rivera, Director Ed Finlan, Navotas Mayor and Ms Toby Tiangco, Valenzuela Mayor and Ms Bobbit Carlos, Taguig Mayor and Ms Freddie Tinga; Biñan, Laguna Vice Mayor and Ms Cookie Yatco, Mandaluyong Vice Mayor Jesse Cruz, lawyer Jimmy and wife Nina Paz, Mandaluyong City councilors, barangay captains and department heads.

DEBUTANTES Charisse (in yellow) and Ciara Abalos in their Joji Aguilar gowns

Also present were friends of the twins since their school days in Poveda, Charisse's classmates at Ateneo de Manila University, where she is taking up Management Economics; and Ciara's classmates at De La Salle University, where she is studying AB-PLM (Philosophy).

Guests went home with a special giveaway of bottles of scents in a blue-and-yellow package.

For the occasion, the Shang prepared a spread consisting of smoked tuna, prawns and maki roll; horseradish cream, mesclun greens in balsamic dressing, cream of broccoli with roasted almonds, mango and lemon sherbet, beef mignon in port wine sauce, fillet of salmon in saffron sauce, potato gratin, gourmet vegetables in season, ginger tiramisu with fresh fruits and pralines.

The cakes with sun and moon designs were provided by Goldilocks and Penk Ching of Pastrybin.

Overall coordinator of the affair was Heda Ramos.

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

BONOAN-CAPRICHO

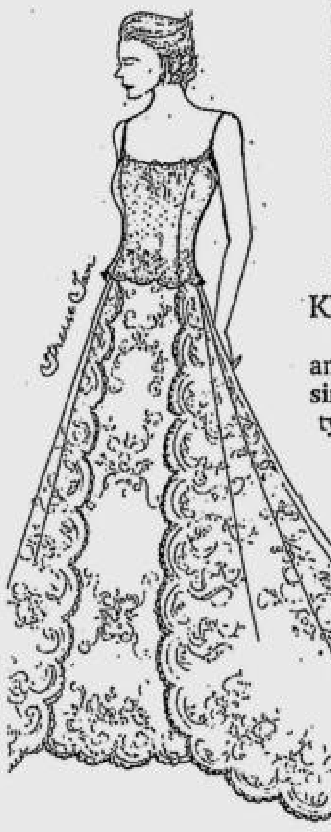
Luz Capricho, daughter of **Honorato** and **Sofronio Capricho**, will wed **Emerson Antonio Sales Bonoan III**, son of Bishop **Emerson** (deceased) and **Alicia Bonoan**, on Aug. 10, 4:30 p.m. in a garden wedding at the Coconut Palace, CCP Complex, Manila. Reception follows at the same venue. Fr. **Raynald Bonoan**, brother of the groom, will officiate the Mass.

ALEJO-ALEGRE

Menandro Alejo and **Genedith Alegre** tied the knot on June 8 at SBMA Chapel. Reception followed at Sea Hotel and Restaurant.

NATIVIDAD-ANDAY

Gerard S. Natividad married **Ardyth G. Anday**, daughter of Capt. **Abner** and **Vilma Anday**, last May 10 at the Diocesan Shrine of San Antonio de Padua, Pila, Laguna.



KHONGHUN-DUMLAO

Gerard Co Khonghun, son of **Johnny** and **Melecia Khonghun**, and **Jeanne Desiree Caballero Dumlao**, daughter of Atty. **Hermenegildo** and **May Teresita Dumlao**, will exchange marriage vows on July 26 at 4 p.m. at the Basilica of San Sebastian, Plaza del Carmen, Quiapo, Manila. Reception will follow at the Centennial Hall of The Manila Hotel. The bride will wear an ecru hand-embroidered piña gown designed by **Therese Tan.**

MANINGDING-ROSALES

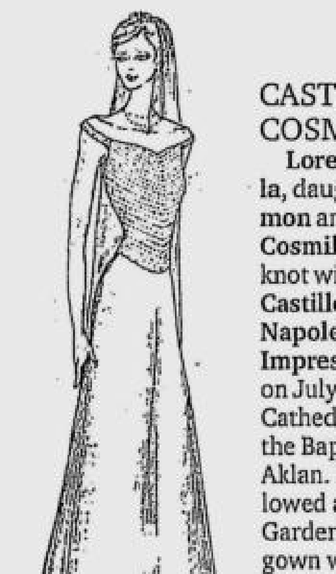
Sammy Maningding, son of **Corazon Maningding** of Pangasinan, married **Imelda Rosales**, daughter of Mr. and Ms **Pedro Rosales** of Lipa City, on June 21 at Molave Pavillion, Bluroze Farm, Lodlod, Lipa City.

VILLANUEVA-TION

Conrad D. Villanueva, son of **Carlito** and **Jesusa Villanueva**, and **Mary Welinea O. Tion**, daughter of **Rogelio** and **Nenita Tion**, recently exchanged matrimonial vows at St. Paul of the Cross Parish, Marikina. The Christian wedding was officiated by Fr. **Wilfredo Estroza.**

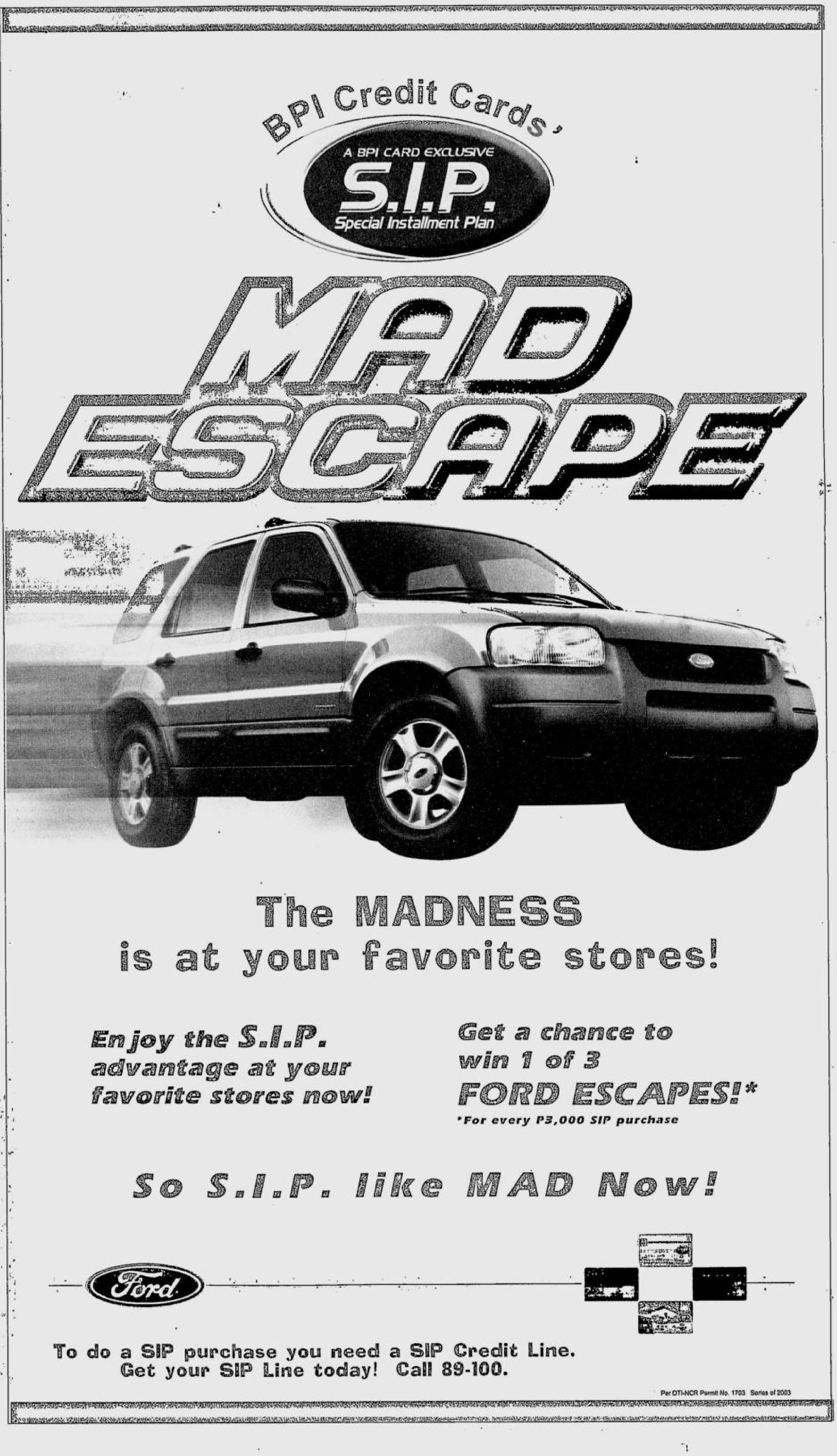
VERGARA-MAPENDAN

Alexander Cyril Vergara and **Mary Joan Mapendan** will tie the knot on July 26 at the St. James the Great Parish Church in Ayala-Alabang Village, Muntinlupa City. The bride-elect is the daughter of **Armando and Norma Mapendan**, while the benedict is the son of **Alex** and **Joise Vergara.** The reception will be held at the main ballroom of Ayala Country Club.



CASTILLO-COSMILLA

Loreliee Cosmilla, daughter of **Felemon** and **Lourdes Cosmilla**, tied the knot with **Napoleon Castillo Jr.**, son of **Napoleon Sr.** and **Impression Castillo**, on July 10 at the Cathedral of St. John the Baptist, Kalibo, Aklan. Reception followed at Neneth's Garden. The bride's gown was designed by **Jay Masangya.**



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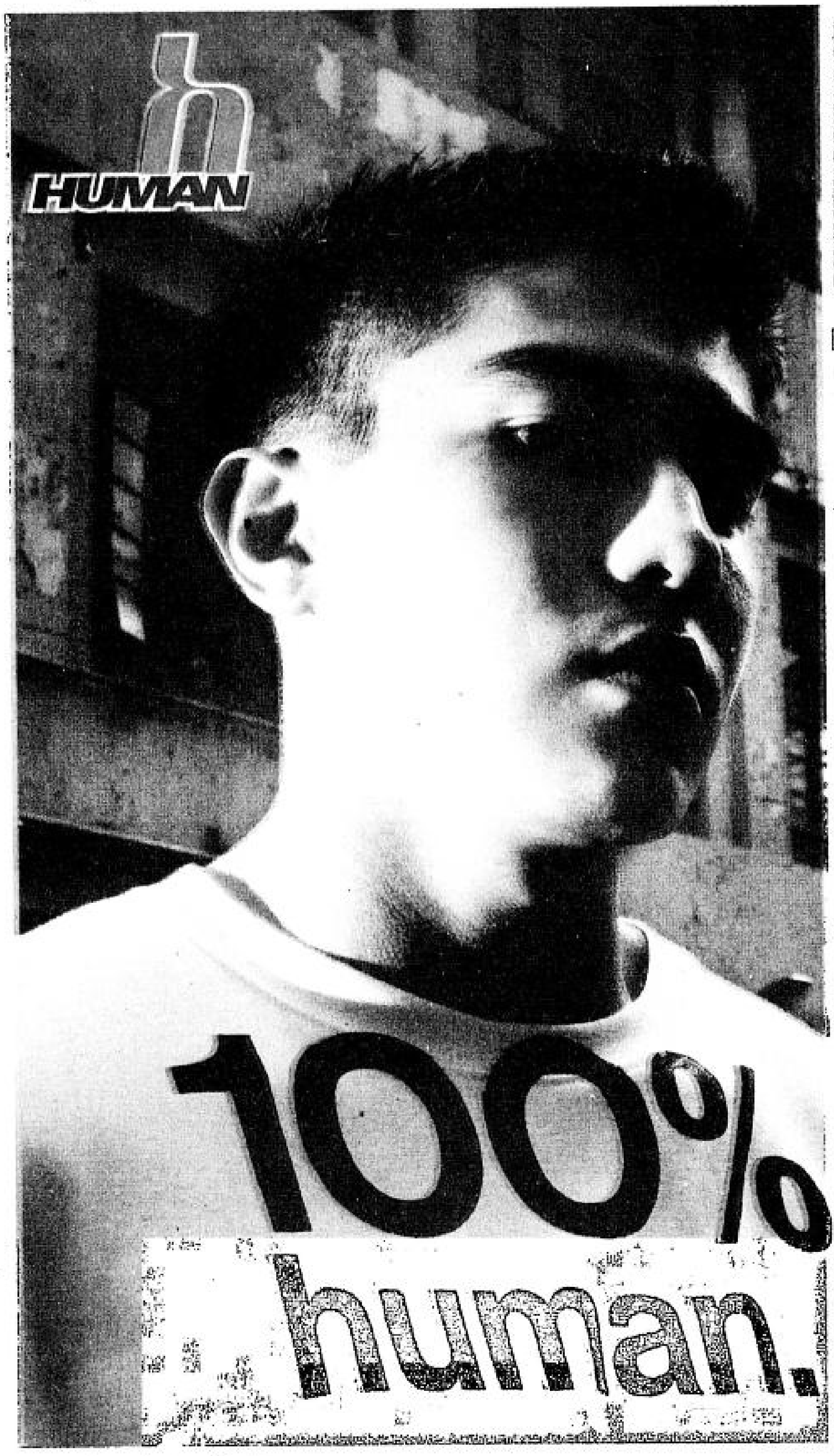
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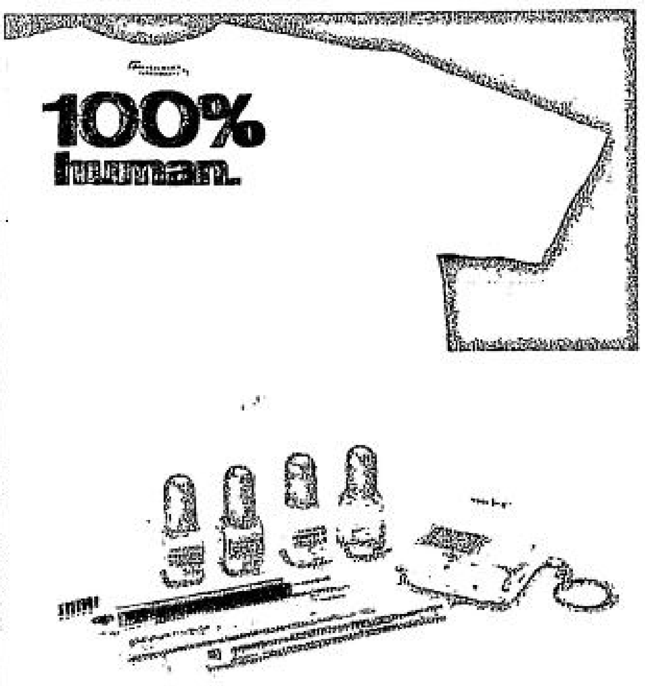

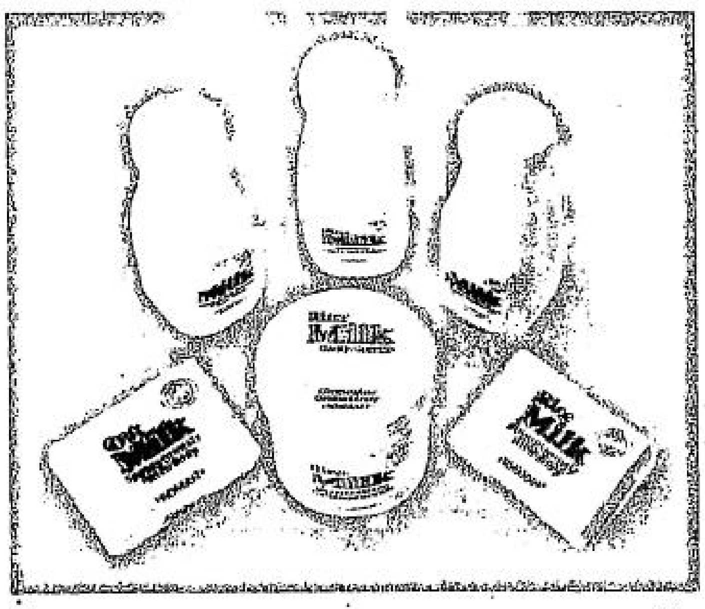

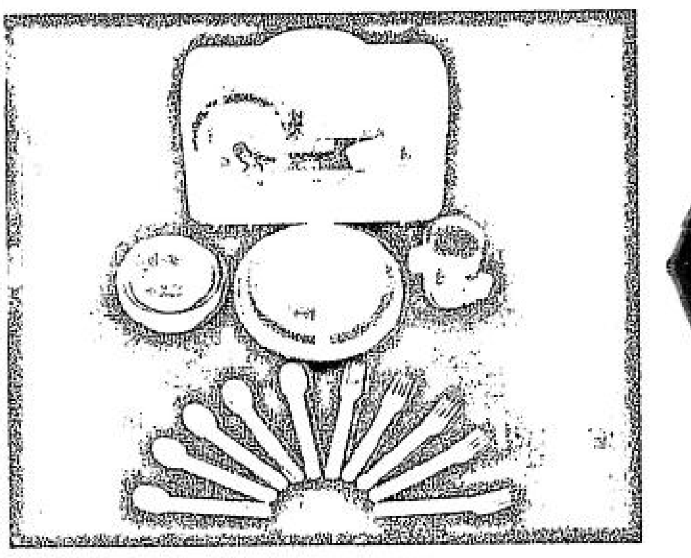

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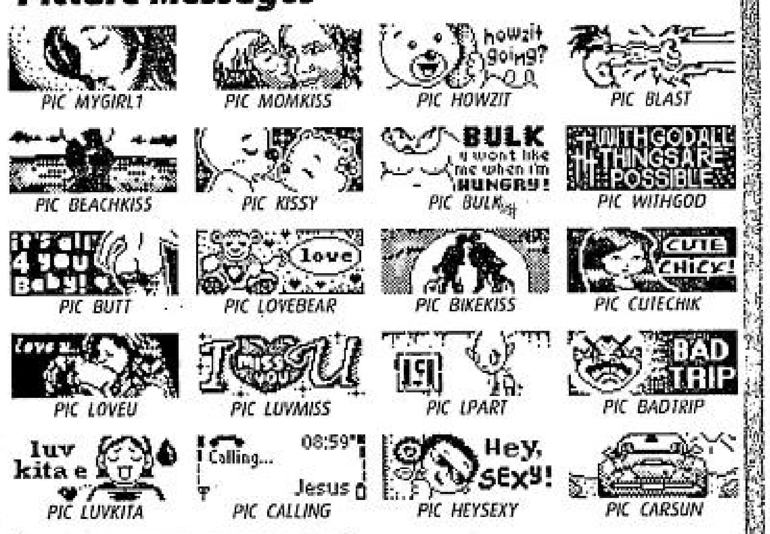
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PIC MOMKISS
howzit going?
PIC HOWZIT
PIC BLAST
PIC BEACHKISS
PIC KISSY
BULK u wont like me when im HUNGRY!
PIC BULK
WITH GOD ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE
PIC WITHGOD
it's all 4 you Baby!
PIC BUTT
love
PIC LOVEBEAR
PIC BIKEKISS
CUTE CHICK!
PIC CUTECHIK
Love u..
PIC LOVEU
I miss you U
PIC LUVMISS
PIC LPART
BAD TRIP
PIC BADTRIP
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PIC LUVKITA
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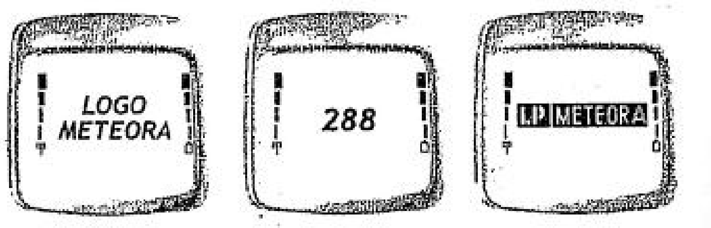
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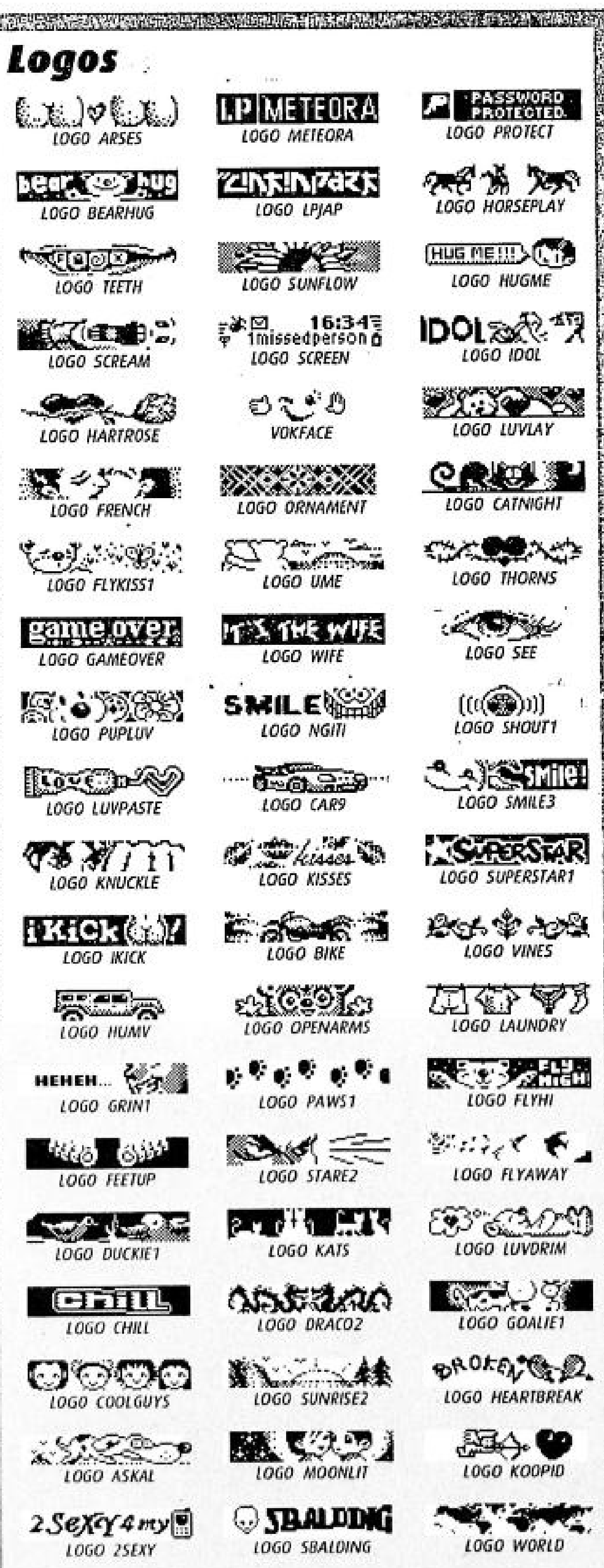
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Meteor Rain (Liu Xing Yu)
F4
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Meteor Garden Ending Song
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Coldplay
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Linkin Park
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Chuva Choo Choo
Jolina Magdangal
TONE CHUVA

Lose Yourself
Eminem
TONE LOSEYOUR

Bonnie And Clyde
Jay-Z feat. Beyonce Knowles
TONE BONNIE

Try Again
Aaliyah
TONE TRYAGAIN

Escape
Enrique Iglesias
TONE ESCAPE

Fighter
Christina Aguilera
TONE FIGHTER

Can't Lose You
F4
TONE CANTLOSE

Rise And Fall
Craig David And Sting
TONE RISEFALL

Rock The Boat
Aaliyah
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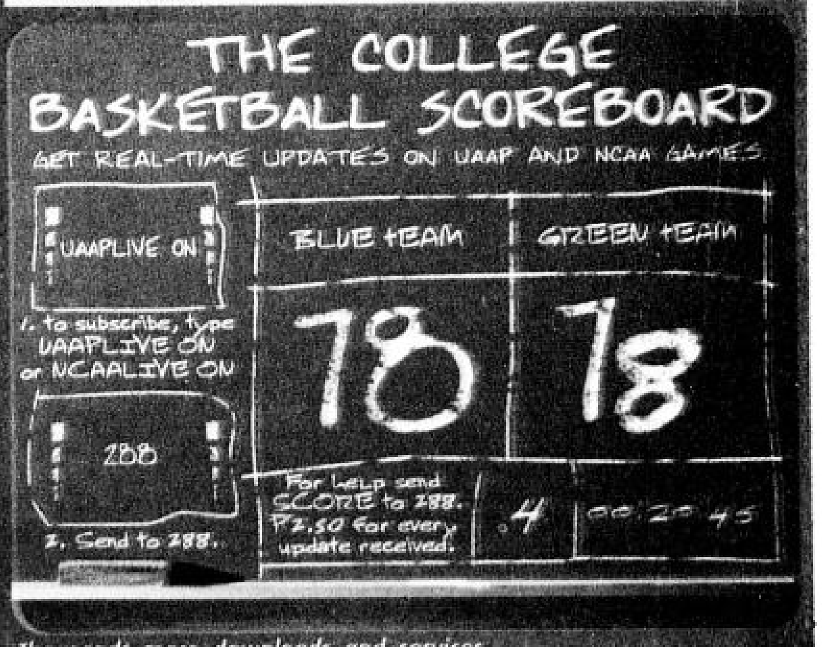
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NEWLYWEDS Ian and Dianne

TIONGSON-MANLOSA NUPTIALS

The *Little Mermaid* meets her *prince*

TV and recording star Dianne de la Fuente weds entrepreneur Ian Tiongson in a storybook affair that blends Tinseltown, big business and politics

IT could have been a scene straight out of a telenovela when television/stage actress Diana Manlosa, 21, a.k.a. Dianne "Maria Amor" de la Fuente, and Ian Tiongson, 28, of Cabalen, married at afternoon rites held at the Santuario de San Jose Parish in Greenhills, Mandaluyong City.

The bride is the daughter of Filemon and Celia Manlosa, while the groom is the eldest son of Edgardo Tiongson and Maritel Nievera-Shani.

The newlyweds first met at the awarding of the Ten Most Outstanding Youths. They were both awardees—Ian in business and Dianne in show business.

De la Fuente played the alternate lead to Carol Banawa in Trumpets' original production of "The Little Mermaid" at the Meralco Theater a few years ago.

She wore a lace creation by Ariel Agasang, who also did Ian's barong Tagalog.

The groom's younger brother Adji Tiongson III was best man while the bride's sister, Nonna Manlosa-Casis, was matron of honor.

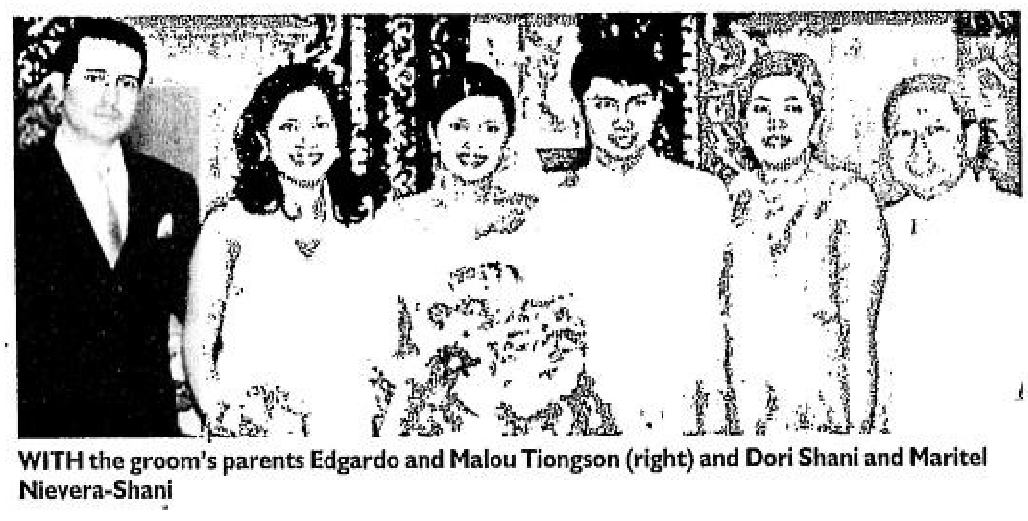
Principal sponsors included Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo, Ching Cruz, Sen. Francis Pangilinan, Robina Gokongwei-Pe, Hans Sy, Millet M. Mananquil, Rikki Dee, Tina Maristela-Ocampo, Jose Mari Chan, Elvira Go, Wilbert Ong, and Cora Garwood.

Secondary sponsors were Ronan Manlosa, Filemon Manlosa III, and Marlowe Manlosa, bridesmen; Maria Frances Tanchanco and Aiko Regine Tiongson, junior bridesmaids; Stanley Toh, Nathaniel Tan, Rio Ana, Clarence Garcia, Francis Walter Reyes, Christopher Guerrero, Julius Caesar Platon II, Rolando Noel Joven, groomsmen; Benedict Francis Ochoa, Haidee dela Torre, candle; Albert Baba, Mikiela Gonzalez, veil; Aries Tiongson, Melissa Patricio, cord; Kyle Sebastian Casis, ring bearer; Karl Francis Manlosa, coin bearer; Michio Ochoa, Bible bearer; and Anna Dominique Tiongson, Maayan Shani,

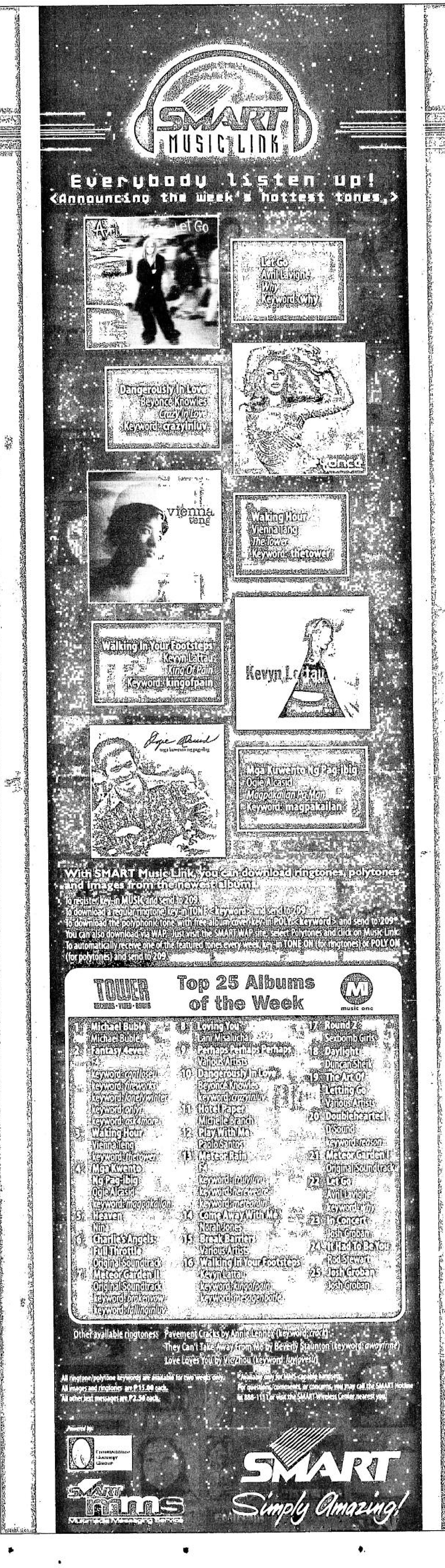
THE LITTLE/ H2

IAN with brother Adji

WITH the bride's parents, Filemon and Celia Manlosa



WITH the groom's parents Edgardo and Malou Tiongson (right) and Dori Shani and Maritel Nievera-Shani



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Why
Keyword: why

Dangerously In Love
Beyonce Knowles
Crazy In Love
Keyword: crazyinluv

Waking Hour
Vienna Teng
The Tower
Keyword: thetower

Walking In Your Footsteps
Kevyn Lettau
King Of Pain
Keyword: kingofpain

Mga Kwento Ng Pag-ibig
Ogie Alcasid
Magpakailan Pa Man
Keyword: magpakailan

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music one

1 Michael Buble
Michael Buble
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keyword: cantlose[illegible]
keyword: fireworks
keyword: lonelywinter
keyword: only
keyword: ask4more
3 Waking Hour
Vienna Teng
keyword: thetower
4 Mga Kwento Ng Pag-ibig
Ogie Alcasid
keyword: magpakailan
5 Heaven
Nina
6 Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle
Original Soundtrack
7 Meteor Garden II
Original Soundtrack
keyword: brokenvow
keyword: fallinginluv
8 Loving You
Lani Misalucha
9 Perhaps Perhaps Perhaps
Various Artists
10 Dangerously In Love
Beyonce Knowles
keyword: crazyinluv
11 Hotel Paper
Michelle Branch
12 Play With Me
Paolo Santos
13 Meteor Rain
F4
keyword: [illegible]
keyword: hereweare
keyword: meteorain
14 Come Away With Me
Norah Jones
15 Break Barriers
Various Artists
16 Walking In Your Footsteps
Kevyn Lettau
keyword: kingofpain
keyword: [illegible]
17 Round 2
Sexbomb Girls
18 Daylight
Duncan Sheik
19 The Art Of Letting Go
Various Artists
20 Doublehearted
D'Sound
keyword: reason
21 Meteor Garden I
Original Soundtrack
22 Let Go
Avril Lavigne
keyword: why
23 In Concert
Josh Groban
24 It Had To Be You
Rod Stewart
25 Josh Groban
Josh Groban

Other available ringtones: Pavement Cracks by Annie Lennox (keyword: crack)
They Can't Take Away From Me by Beverly Staunton (keyword: awayfrmz)
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LILI Adina, Marichelle and Patrick Gregorio

CHARISSE Que, Marco Protacio and Renee Villacin

BENJ and Bo Ross with Mariter and Hans Klepp

The Waterfront's wedding extravaganza

CEBU CEBU

Jaime Picornell

"WEDDINGS at the Waterfront" took place in Cebu from July 4-6 and proved to be an unprecedented success for a bridal fair that was several months in the making.

Its venue was the Pacific Ballroom of the Waterfront Cebu City Hotel, where exhibitors set up many imaginative booths.

The event opened on the evening of July 4 with a cocktail party. Asked to cut the ribbon were two couples spanning a generation—guests of honor **Jesus Sala** and **Rosebud Rivilla Sala**, and **Ramon Gonzales** and **Tweety de Leon-Gonzales.**

Cebu City's beauteous First Lady **Margot Vargas Osmeña** was among those present, escorted by son **Miguel Osmeña.**

Welcoming all were the Waterfront Hotel's top echelon—**Patrick** and **Marichelle Gregorio, Rexlon Gatchalian,** GM **Marco Protacio,** marketing group director **Shella Laxa Sarmiento, Mylah Mohammad, Dindo Girado,** and two young pretties—PR manager **Charisse Que** and her assistant **Renee Villacin.**

The opening night fashion show was an entire collection by Cebu's leading designer, **Philip Rodriguez.** It was also the perfect occasion to present Cebu's Four Loveliest—**Janeen Almendras, Bunny Ludo, Ross Rica** and **Ross Ann King.**

On the ramp, too, were Cebu's most eligible bachelors—**Racy Franco, Blake Go,** and the identical **Klepp** twins, **Andy** and **Alex.** Is it true they will alternate as Prince Desire in the Cebu full-length production of the "Sleeping Beauty" ballet?

Congratulations are in order for the unprecendented success of this year's bridal fair

RAMON and Tweetie Gonzalez with Rosebud and Jesus Sala

The bridal fair was made open to the public starting July 5 from 10 a.m.-9 p.m. The day was studded with activities. There were three symposia: "Wedding Feng Shui" by **Joseph Chau;** "Floral Trends" by **Rose Amores;** and "Color Trends/Fashion Forecast" by **Vittorio Barba** and **Rajo Laurel.**

There was a fashion show, mostly of lingerie, in the evening. Congratulations were poured on **Mariter Dumon Klepp** who took this opportunity to launch her MK Summer 2004 line, and jeweler **Lili Adina,** who herself was quite stunning in black and an emperor's ransom in diamonds and pearls.

Those imaginative bouquets by **Teresing Mendezona** and **Pinky Chang** of Pink Flora also not go unnoticed.

There were more symposia on the final day, July 6. **Marco Protacio** did "Wedding Etiquette, Superstitious Beliefs and Traditions," while **Heny Sison** took up "Cake Trends." Yum!

The event culminated with a fashion show dubbed "Sposabella," which surpassed the one of last year.

At the start of the show, there was a "wedding" with all the proper "I do's" between the Waterfront Hotel and the magazine Metro Weddings-I Do, superbly represented by **Thelma San Juan** and **Daphne Oseña-Paez.**

Soon enough, the fashion parade unfolded—two bridal gowns for every designer, choreographed by **Jackie Aquino.**

Raul Teehankee was present during the three-day festivity, being as nice as ever, and shooting with his camera. His report last Sunday enumerated the Cebu as well as the Manila designers who participated.

We'd like to single out **Inno Sotto,** who, at the end of the show, came to mingle with the enthusiastic crowd, thanking each and everyone accordingly: "Thank you... *muchas gracias.. salamat...*", to which he was invariably asked, "Same time next year?"

Monique Lhuillier was classified as a Cebu designer, which made everyone very proud indeed. One of her gowns featured yards of Chantilly lace which Monique herself obtained in Chantilly, France.

Applauding from a good vantage point were her grandmothers, **Angelita Lhuillier** and **Nita Llamas,** parents **Michel** and **Amparito Lhuillier,** maternal aunt **Angie L. Mathieu,** and a galaxy of relations and friends like **Annie Osmeña Aboitiz, Gerry Richards, Annabelle Lu Ym, Zeny Deen** and **Elsa Blanco del Villar.**

To celebrate, Michel and Amparito hosted an intimate lauriat at the Waterfront's Chinese specialty restaurant, Tin Gow, which is very highly rated for its celestial cuisine.

Seen there, too, was **Rafaelita Pelaez Golez** with her children **Alain** and **Tanya Golez,** to fete dear friend Lili Adina.

Ms Golez had arrived from Cagayan de Oro City just a few hours before the fashion show, taking a good respite from her duties as president of the Lyceo de Cagayan University.

In her party of friends that evening were **Babie Du Go,** school chums **Myra Gonzales** and **Connie Revilles,** and Alain's best friend **Sven Serafica.**

Designers and models, plus everyone who had anything to do with the bridal fair, went to the cast party at the upstairs Casino Filipino. When the party ended, the celebrations at the Tin Gow were still in full swing.

CHANTILLY lace for a Monique Lhuillier bridal gown. Amparito walks right behind.

The *Little Mermaid* meets her *prince*

WITH principal sponsors Tina Maristela Ocampo, Millet Mananquil, Sen. Loren Legarda, Ching Cruz, Robina Gokongwei-Pe and Elvira Go; Wilbert Ong, Sen. Francis Pangilinan, Hans Sy, Rikki Dee, Roman Romulo (for Alberto Romulo) and Jose Mari Chan

From page H1

Ma. Candice Tiongson, Toni Rose Morales, flower girls.

Among the more than 300 guests who attended were the bride's show biz friends like Tonton Gutierrez, Evangeline Pascual, Karylle, Ciara Sotto and boyfriend John Lloyd Cruz, Tanya Garcia, RJ Rosales and Audie Gemora.

At the reception at the Mandarin Oriental Grand Ballroom, the groom sang to his bride "You're the Inspiration". The bride responded with Jose Mari Chan's "Please Be Careful with My Heart".

Guests received from the newlyweds miniature unity candles.

THE COUPLE with *ninong* Executive Secretary Alberto Romulo

FRANCES Tanchangco, Rowena Ochoa, Haidee dela Torre, Mikiela Gonzales, Melissa Patricio, Toni Rose Morales and Maayan Shani

WITH Melissa Patricio, Aries Tiongson, Mikaela Gonzalez, Albert Baba, Haidee de la Torre and Benedict Ochoa

Night-long 'Happy Hour'

Once again, Conway's at Shangri-La Makati has become the happening place for happy-hour aficionados

TEESAW

Raul Teehankee

GUESS who came for cocktails during the Happy Hour and stayed beyond?

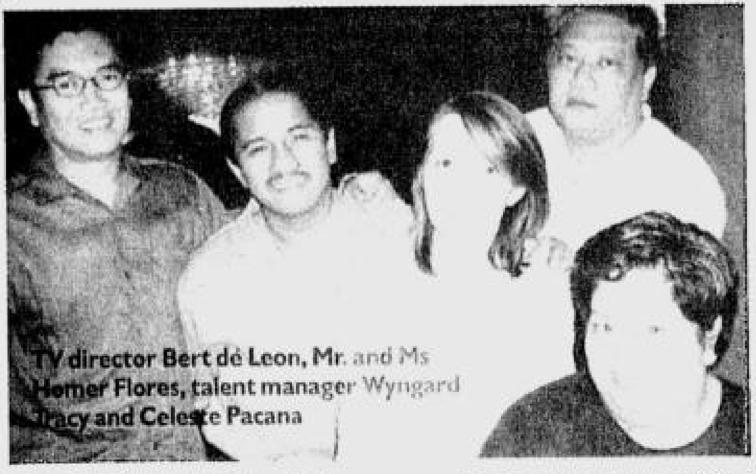
Ever since its renovation and re-opening, Conway's at the Shangri-la Manila in Makati has been the happening place for happy-hour aficionados, lovers of live band music and people-watchers.

We were there three times in three weeks and spotted an interesting mix of sports, entertainment, fashion, social and international personalities of the Philippines. Django Bustamante, one of the world's greatest billiard players, was there and he gamely posed for us. **Angel Aquino**, a most beautiful face and product endorser, happened to hang out at the hotel bar another time. Ditto bubbly **KC Concepcion** who was in a rush as she had to meet some friends and was running late.

Everyone used to talk about **Borgy** but now its **Michael Marcos Manotoc**'s turn. His face, together with other young denizens of Manila society, is on the cover of this month's controversial Philippine Tatler. We heard that Michael is a talented young man and is quite comfortable acting on stage like her mom, Congresswoman **Imee Marcos.**

Popular band Side A is a regular performer at Conway's. There's nothing quite like melodious tunes especially when they're sung by vocalist Joey Generoso. We also caught The Spirit of '67 for some retro music.

A week ago, we bumped into Shangri-la's new general manager, **Jarlath Lynch, Joy Wassmer** and television host **Ces Oreña Drilon.** We were waiting for a fashion show to start at the ballroom featuring Njork designers **Miguel Leyva** and **Francis Libiran** and sponsored by Swarovski. We decided to take a peek at Conway's. After so many cocktails , we missed the show and stayed until closing time. The lesson of the story: A show should start within 30 minutes of the scheduled time, and you should not enter Conway's until you are through with all previous appointments.

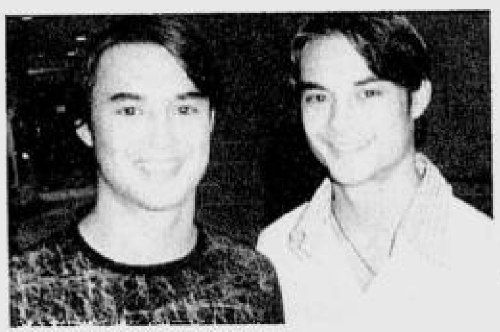


TV director Bert de Leon, Mr. and Ms Homer Flores, talent manager Wyngard Tracy and Celeste Pacana

KC Concepcion

INTERNATIONAL billiard player Django Bustamante

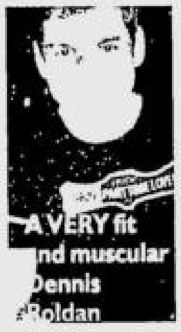
SIDE A vocalist Joey Generoso



AUSTRALIAN twins Greg and Brad Turvey

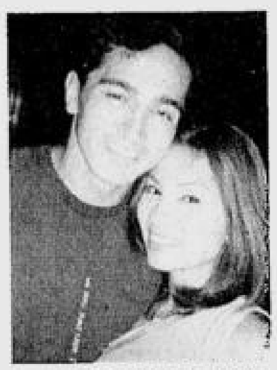
SHANGRI-LA communication officers Marc de la Cruz and Julie Cedo with Illac Diaz

MODEL Phoemela Barranda and 'the' Willie Revillame



A VERY fit nd muscular Dennis Roldan

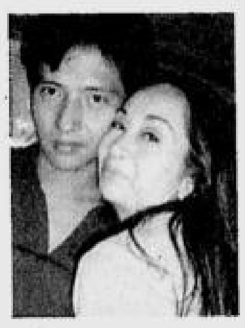
MICHAEL Marcos Manotoc



SOON-TO-WED couple Vince Hizon and Patricia Bermudez

TV hosts Ces Oreña Drilon and Katarina Constantino

ANGEL Aquino



DANCING couple Peter Chiu and Christine Hipe

NJORK designers Miguel Leyva and Francis Libiran

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One-stop shop for events and parties opens

THEMES & Motifs (T&M) Special Events Resource Centre opened recently at the second floor of the Power Plant at Rockwell's Lifestyles Section.

The store offers a comprehensive roster of top caliber suppliers for weddings, corporate functions and kiddie parties including fashion designers, photographers, audio visual presentation producers, caterers and children's party organizers.

T&M Resource Centre also extends professional assistance to customers who do not have the time, patience, or skill to organize their own special events.

Visit www.themesandmotifs.com.

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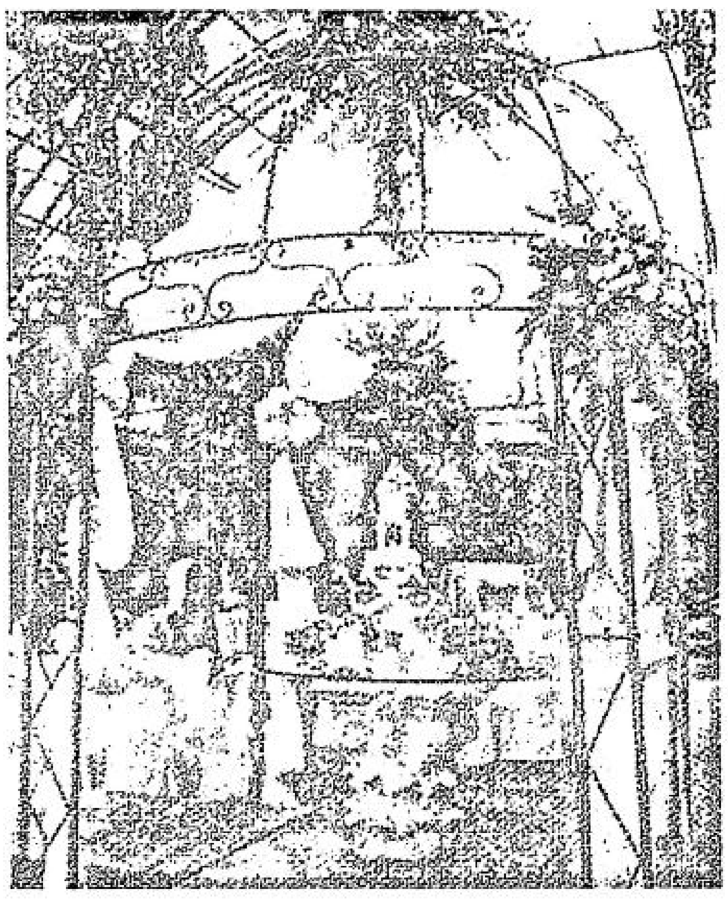
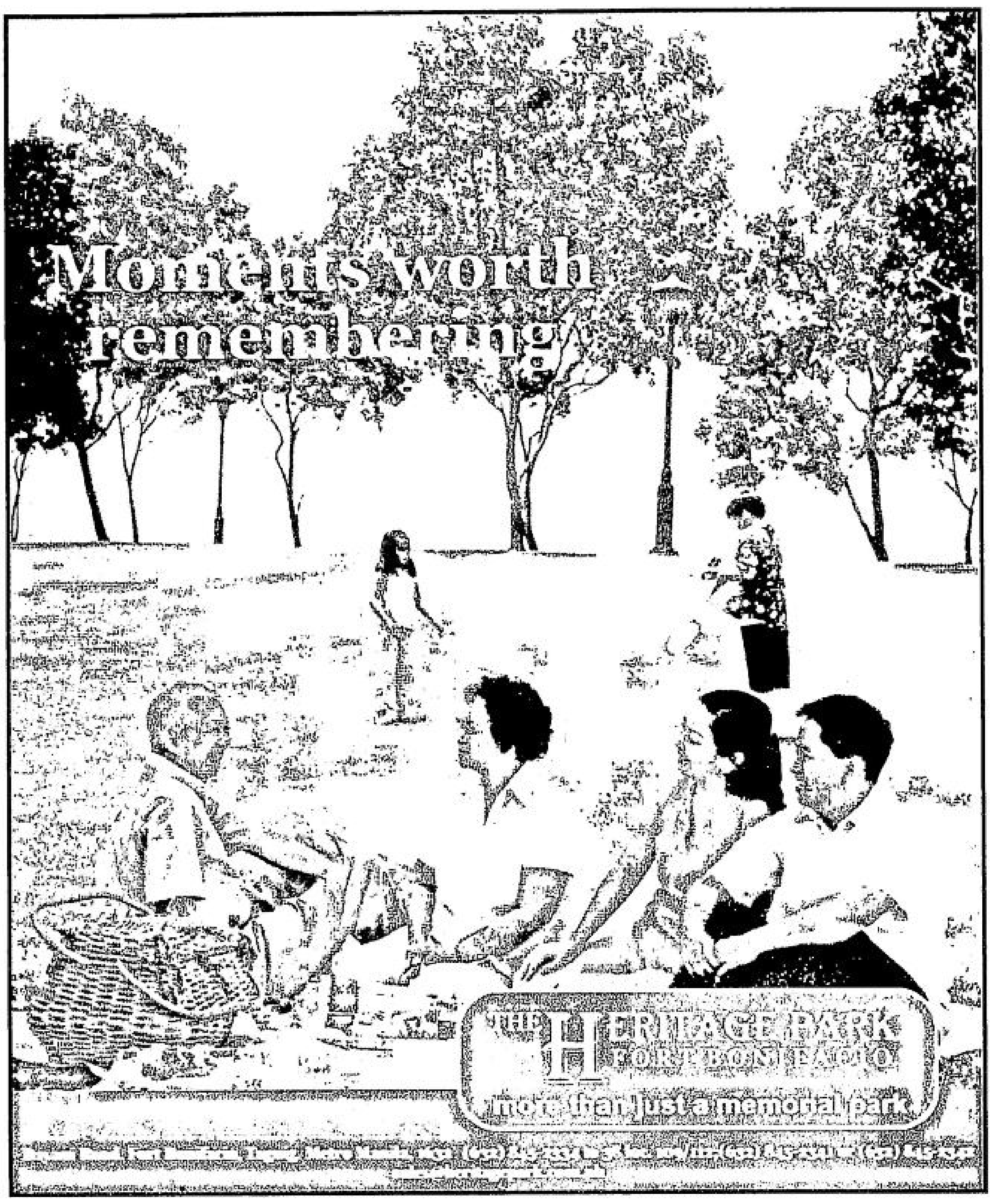
Swan Catering Services offers entertainment packages that can include balloons, band and entertainment, bridal car, florists, novelty items, wedding accessories, wedding gowns and cakes, depending on the occasion. Swan is at 11 South AA corner Roces Avenue, Brgy. Paligsahan, Roxas District, Quezon City (413-0824 to 25, fax 371-3428); Palacio Grande, Intramuros, Manila (528-0286) and Perfect Day, Wilson Bldg., San Juan (722-2341 or fax 722-2295).

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Sunday LifeStyle

Honoring our Hispanic heritage

Diplomatic Swirl

By Amiga

SWEDISH Ambassador **Ulf Hakansson** and his lovely wife, **Lena**, said their farewells at a well-attended reception at their residence for the many friends they have made during their three years in the Philippines, which seems rather short for those who will miss them.

Mme. Lena is a fine chef herself, so it was no surprise that the buffet was especially fine that evening with her special touch, even if Mandarin was catering.

Rumors are that the next Swedish ambassador will also be a lady, which will bring the count of lady ambassadors in Manila to a round dozen.

Some people wanted to know whether it was because we have a lady president that

HONORING/12

CASINO Español president Ramos Alegre, Mme. Aurora Sagaz, daughter Alexandra Sagaz and Spanish Ambassador Ignacio Sagaz

BETOY JOHNSON

After more than a hundred years, we finally got around to celebrating a Filipino-Spanish Friendship Day. Viva!

SWEDISH Ambassador Ulf and Lena Hakansson

ARGENTINIAN Ambassador and Mme. Mario Schuff

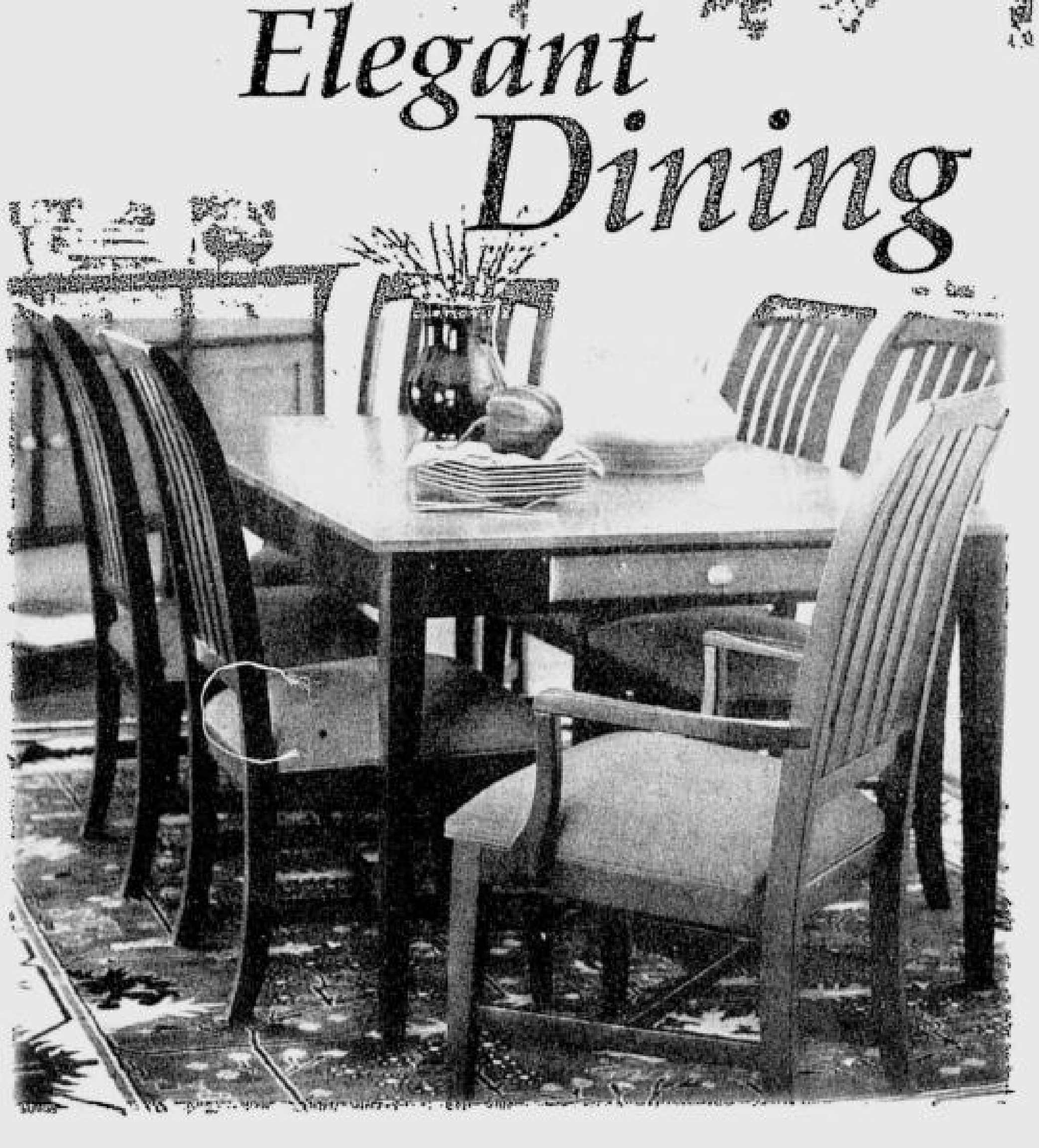
KUWAITI Ambassador Ibrahim Muhanna Al-Muhanna and Mexican Ambassador Enrique Hubbard

HELEN ONG and Swiss Ambassador Lise Favre

RUDY ESPERAS

LOUIE and Mely Ablaza

Stylish
Living



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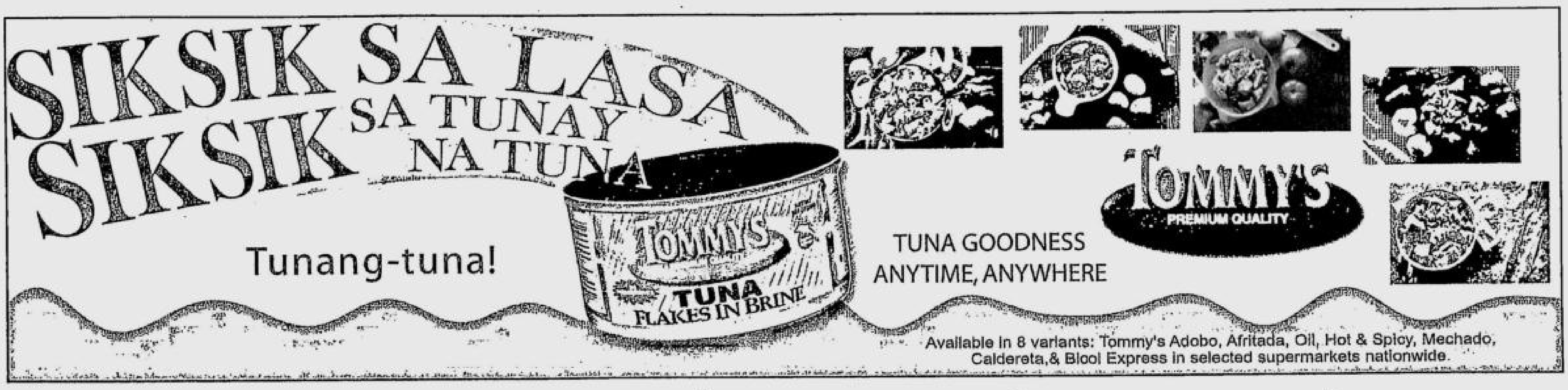

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Honoring our Hispanic heritage

SWEDISH Ambassador Ulf Hakansson during the farewell dinner tendered for him by Muslim Mindanao Gov. Parouk Hussin

NEW Zealand Ambassador and Mme. Terry Baker flank French Ambassador Reneee Veyret

CHILEAN Ambassador Carmen Lynam

JAPANESE Ambassador Takano, Marixi Prieto and presidential wannabe Raul Roco

RUDY ESPERAS

BRAZILIAN Ambassador Claudio Lyra

From page I1

other countries are sending us the fairer and tougher of the sexes. Perhaps we should return the compliment, don't you think?

* * *

After more than a hundred years, we finally got around to celebrating a Filipino-Spanish Friendship Day, decreed by law no less courtesy of Sen. **Edgardo Angara**.

The celebrations on June 30 were in Baler, Quezon, a good 8 to 10 hours' drive from Manila, where the Spaniards holed up in the church for 11 months.

According to **Zeneida Amador** (who is also an Angara but with a sense of humor), her *tisoy*-looking relatives were inside the church with the rest of the Spaniards while the Pinoy-looking ones were outside with the rest of the townspeople.

In the meantime, back in Manila, Instituto Cervantes, with the Embassy and the Department of Foreign Affairs, had a special celebration at Casino Español with paella and croquetas and callos con garbanzos, not to mention the wine and the fine program with an intermix of Spanish and Filipino dance numbers.

Seen at the gathering were **Marquitos Roces**, INQUIRER columnist/architect **Augusto Villalon**, DFA Undersecretary and Mrs. **Franklin Ebdalin**, **Tessie Luz**, Dr. **Beniting Legarda**, **Javier Galvan** of the Instituto, and of course, Spanish Ambassador **Ignacio Sagaz** with his wife **Aurora** and daughter **Alexandra**.

The Ambassador did say that he had married a Filipina beauty. Ole! By far a much more fruitful token of that friendship.

* * *

It isn't only the Hakanssons who are finishing their tour of duty. Canadian Ambassador **Robert Collette** said his farewells as well at the 136th anniversary of Canada Day, celebrated at the embassy's new premises at the RCBC Plaza.

Ambassador Collette noted that there are 400,000 Canadians today of Filipino origin and Canada's history is like ours, one of great cultural diversity.

However, the good news is that he intends to visit us often since his wife, Mme. Marilyn Collette, will continue her work at the Asian Development Bank as a governance specialist.

SOPRANO Grace Chan, Ambassador Robert Collette, Papal Nuncio Antonio Franco, Marilyn Collette and Virgilio Zaide

RUDY ESPERAS

MARIANA Hubbard and Evie Costa

NATIONAL Artist and Mme. F. Sionil Jose

CHINESE Ambassador and Mme. Wang Changui

UNDERSECRETARY and Ms Franklin Ebdalin

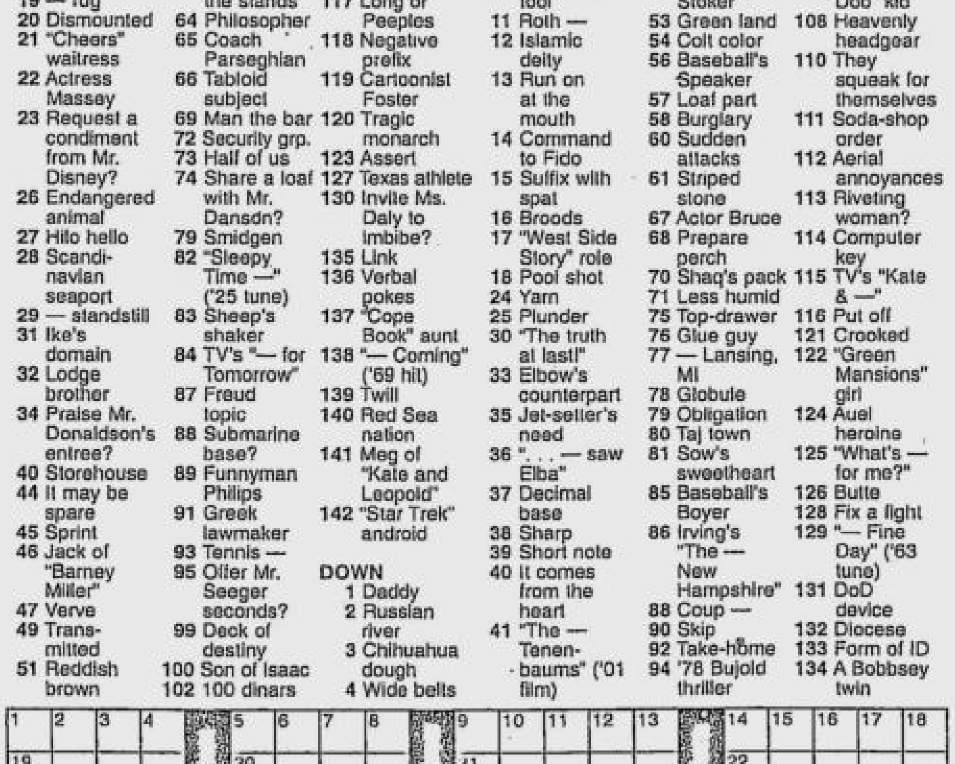
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

CELEBRITY SUPPER

ACROSS
1 Young boxers
5 Qatar's capital
9 Laotian native
14 Poisonous plant
19 — rug
20 Dismounted
21 "Cheers" waitress
22 Actress Massey
23 Request a condiment from Mr. Disney?
26 Endangered animal
27 Hilo hello
28 Scandinavian seaport
29 — standstill
31 Ike's domain
32 Lodge brother
34 Praise Mr. Donaldson's entree?
40 Storehouse
44 It may be spare
45 Sprint
46 Jack of "Barney Miller"
47 Verve
49 Transmitted
51 Reddish brown
55 Tempt Ms. Babilonia with dessert?
59 "The Messiah," for one
62 Gape
63 Sound from the stands
64 Philosopher
65 Coach Parseghian
66 Tabloid subject
69 Man the bar
72 Security grp.
73 Half of us
74 Share a loaf with Mr. Dansdn?
79 Smidgen
82 "Sleepy Time —" ('25 tune)
83 Sheep's shaker
84 TV's "— for Tomorrow"
87 Freud topic
88 Submarine base?
89 Funnyman Philips
91 Greek lawmaker
93 Tennis —
95 Offer Mr. Seeger seconds?
99 Deck of destiny
100 Son of Isaac
102 100 dinars
103 Vietnamese festival
104 "Serpico" author
107 Foot part
109 Fetter
112 Rave about Mr. Everett's seafood?
117 Long or Peeples
118 Negative prefix
119 Cartoonist Foster
120 Tragic monarch
123 Assert
127 Texas athlete
130 Invite Ms. Daly to imbibe?
135 Link
136 Verbal pokes
137 "Cope Book" aunt
138 "— Coming" ('69 hit)
139 Twill
140 Red Sea nation
141 Meg of "Kate and Leopold"
142 "Star Trek" android

DOWN
1 Daddy
2 Russian river
3 Chihuahua dough
4 Wide belts
5 Dit's cousin
6 Marge in the fridge
7 Snake sound
8 In any way
9 Opera division
10 Carpenter's tool
11 Roth —
12 Islamic deity
13 Run on at the mouth
14 Command to Fido
15 Suffix with spat
16 Broods
17 "West Side Story" role
18 Pool shot
24 Yarn
25 Plunder
30 "The truth at last!"
33 Elbow's counterpart
35 Jet-setter's need
36 ". . . — saw Elba"
37 Decimal base
38 Sharp
39 Short note
40 It comes from the heart
41 "The — Tenenbaums" ('01 film)
42 Matterhorn, e.g.
43 Den
46 Rds.
48 Peachy-keen
50 Puccini heroine
52 Spooky Stoker
53 Green land
54 Colt color
56 Baseball's Speaker
57 Loaf part
58 Burglary
60 Sudden attacks
61 Striped stone
67 Actor Bruce
68 Prepare perch
70 Shaq's pack
71 Less humid
75 Top-drawer
76 Glue guy
77 — Lansing, MI
78 Globule
79 Obligation
80 Taj town
81 Sow's sweetheart
85 Baseball's Boyer
86 Irving's "The — New Hampshire"
88 Coup —
90 Skip
92 Take-home
94 '78 Bujold thriller
95 Artist Chagall
96 "Yipe!"
97 Tin —
98 Novelist Paton
101 Dejected
105 Timber tree
106 "Scooby-Doo" kid
108 Heavenly headgear
110 They squeak for themselves
111 Soda-shop order
112 Aerial annoyances
113 Riveting woman?
114 Computer key
115 TV's "Kate & —"
116 Put off
121 Crooked
122 "Green Mansions" girl
124 Auel heroine
125 "What's — for me?"
126 Butte
128 Fix a fight
129 "— Fine Day" ('63 tune)
131 DoD device
132 Diocese
133 Form of ID
134 A Bobbsey twin



answer in Sports section

SWEDEN'S ULF HAKANSSON

Ambassador extraordinaire, friend of the Philippines

By Joan Orendain
Contributor

IN A VERY protocol- and hierarchy-conscious nation as the Philippines, Ambassador Ulf Hakansson of Sweden is completely informal and folksy. Sheila Coronel of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism (PCIJ) was surprised when Hakansson visited the PCIJ offic, something "no other ambassador has done," she said. "But that's Hakansson for you."

So humble is he that he refused to be interviewed. "Sweden is not a big actor in the Philippines," he protested. But every agency with whom he has had dealings point to his industry and earnestness of purpose. He's also friendly.

The great success of the Swede Survey Project owes to him.

"The project had lain dormant for 10 years, with only training having been accomplished," said director Narciso B. Nieto of the Bureau of Land Development of the Department of Agrarian Reform .

"Barely a month after Hernani Braganza took over as secretary of DAR, we made a 15-minute presentation to him (the envoy)" of the need for surveying every single lot in the Philippines with the Geographic Information System (GIS).

Aided by the satellite-driven global positioning system (GPS), GIS combines a land information system with mapping. All the information about each lot go into the GIS. The traditional way of surveying land is to drag lines from the *poblacion* all the way to the boondocks. For the DAR, jump-starting the project would speed up land acquisition.

The project was piloted by DAR in Batangas, then in Iloilo City, and is now under implementation in San Isidro, Nueva Ecija.

"Agrarian reform is an 18th-century solution to a 16th-century problem applied in the 20th century," former DAR Undersecretary Gil de los Reyes said. "The Swede Survey Project has brought DAR to the 21st century, and DAR now has the most modern survey technology in the Philippines." Thanks to the Swedish envoy.

Sweden is the most knowledge-based economy in the world, greater even than the United States. One would suspect that they would possess a high density of indoor-loving nerds. Yet for a nation a little larger than California and with a small population of nine million, the Swedes are serious respecters of the great outdoors and the environment.

SWEDISH Ambassador Ulf Hakansson

It comes as no surprise that Swedish-supported technical cooperation lays emphasis on helping the Philippines deal with environmental problems. The Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) is receiving assistance to set up a system for sustained air quality control in Metro Manila.

Six industry sub-sectors will be the beneficiaries of training for environmental management. A Swedish credit line of $10 million to the Development Bank of the Philippines is also being finalized, to be used for providing environmental equipment in the Laguna Lake area.

Several other projects on a bilateral basis almost all dwell on the environment, through the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

"It's the poorest of the poor who are hit by the degradation of the environment. They have no access to clean water and live in congested areas which have sewage problems," Ambassador Hakansson said.

Another goal of the bilateral cooperation is "to help strengthen the democratic system of governance and the civil society." "I'm very attracted to civil societies here," the envoy said. "How they are formed, how they work. They are a great strength for this country."

He delights in his other job as conduit between SIDA and Philippine institutions such as ISIS International-Manila, which links women all over the world through information and communication, to share knowledge and engender change. The envoy marvels at "the very high... participation of women in government, academe, in NGOs."

One to three applications are received from every Asian country to an annual five- to six-week course on Women in Management at Lulea University in northern Sweden. So successful were the Filipinas that the envoy recommended the next regional course be held here, in November.

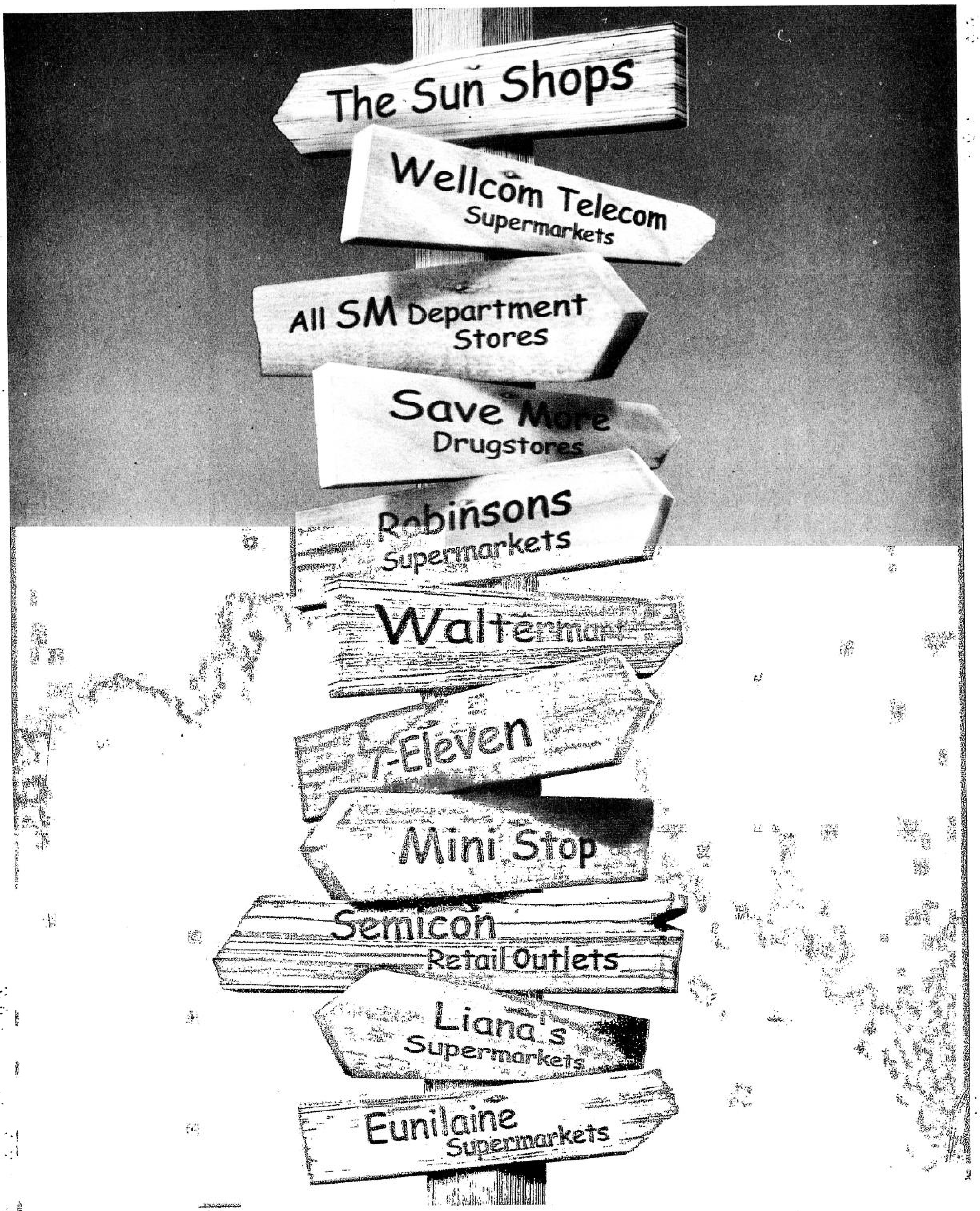
"What makes it so fun to be here is that very often, you find that instead of bringing Filipinos abroad, you can bring people in to serve as inspiration and model." Coronel was sponsored by SIDA to deliver a talk in Bangkok on press freedom in the region.

"Sheila is very well known in Europe, very respected," the envoy said. "She is a member of the board of the Dag Hammarskjold Foundation in Upsala." When he heard she was going to attend a board meeting in Sweden, he made a call to the Stockholm University to have her as guest speaker at their school of journalism.

Sweden, the Philippines and Thailand are working together to raise issues of trafficking of women and children, "a pressing concern," according to the ambassador.

"In the Philippines, NGOs have been very helpful in bringing about progress. They are worthy of our support." His task in this case is to connect local NGOs with Swedish NGOs, which also receive SIDA funding.

"For me, it has been so easy to work here," the envoy said. "People are open, friendly. You are always received by whoever you want to talk to. I must say I don't think I've been to a country where people are easy to reach. You have a high degree of access. They take an interest in you, in what you represent. It's such a natural trait in Filipinos."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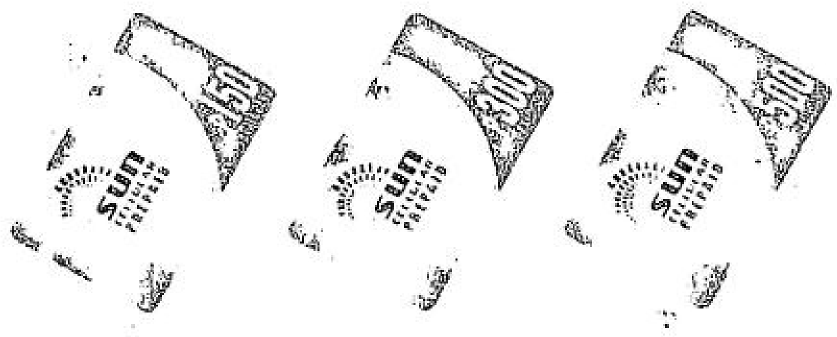
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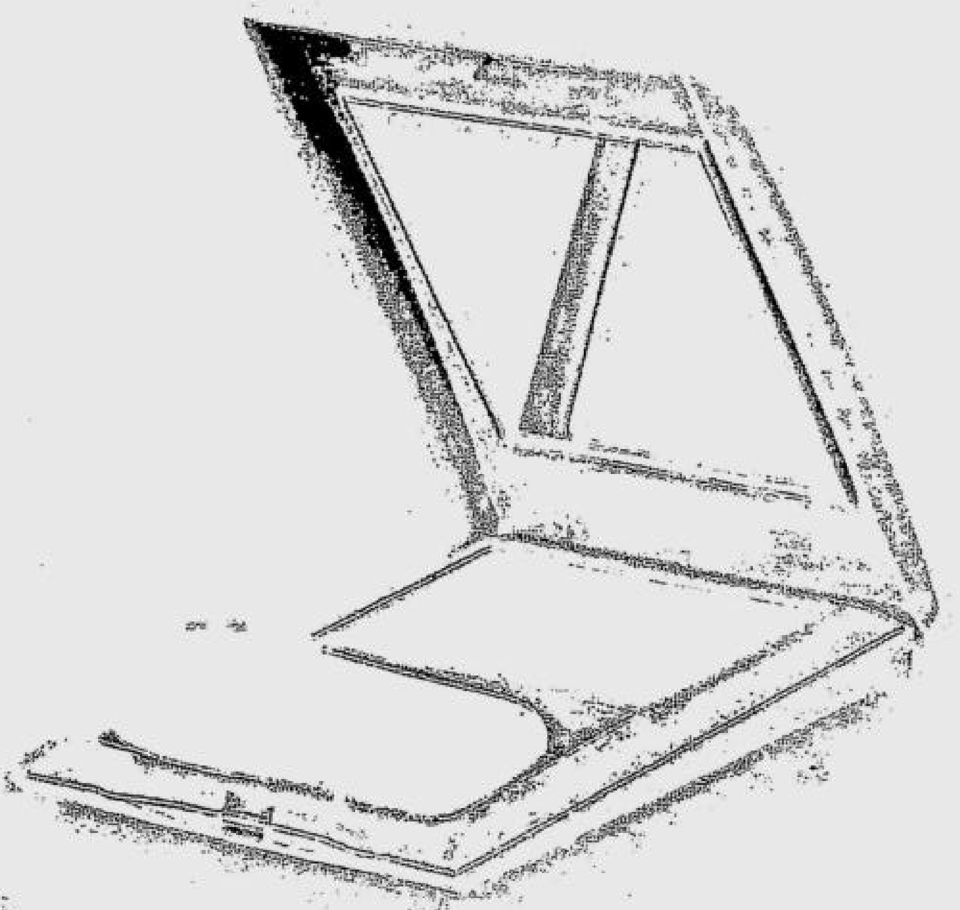

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Having completed the race, I am now an official triathlete with a medal to boot, even if I was also dead last

When finishing last feels like finishing first

TESSA!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes

MY BEDSIDE table, once the exclusive territory of the TV and Bose Lifestyle system remotes, has a new set of tenants. Ever since I've gotten into the whole triathlete scene, my bedside domain now includes my running manual, Aveda foot cream, Ling Nam Ultra Balm, Hung Far Oil and other remedies for tired and painful muscles, joints and bones (rheumatism and arthritis).

Fortunately, **Dennis**, my husband who sleeps several hours ahead of me, does not smell that forceful memories-of-Grandma menthol scent. Although Advil and Alaxan are there as pain relievers, yoga has taught me to take the natural remedy route as much as possible, so Dennis just has to tolerate the smell.

I don't really know if competing in a triathlon is my way of coping with turning 40 this year, or just the enthusiastic influence of my athlete cousin **Jon-jon Rufino** who is about a decade younger, or realizing that all my outfits would look better on a shapely body even if disguised under all my wigs.

Primarily though, I've been challenged by the thought of completing a triathlon ever since the Subic one earlier this year where I did the swim and run but skipped the bike leg. After seeing the DQ sign right next to my name in the Subic results, I had become obsessed with a new goal—completing an entire race.

The first order of business to accomplishing my goal was to purchase a bike. This task was more confusing than I thought. There are so many variations and price ranges to bikes, almost as vast as your choices of cars. There are road bikes, mountain bikes, hybrid bikes, tri-bikes, big bikes, small bikes, blue bikes and pink bikes. Dr. Seuss could have written a book all about the different kinds of bikes. You not only have to consider the brand and the color but the frames, the forks, the stems, the seat posts, the saddles and on and on and on. And I haven't even started with the accessories.

The litany of costs is endless, and the total can reach the same amount as eight Prada outfits with a 10-piece Louis Vuitton luggage set plus a Bulgari spiral ring combined. I have discovered an area where men actually spend more than women!

Unfortunately, now that I have unraveled this mystery, I have been afflicted by it, and have added sporting goods and boys' toys to my personal expenses. Oh well, I can always justify these expenses as beauty enhancement tools.

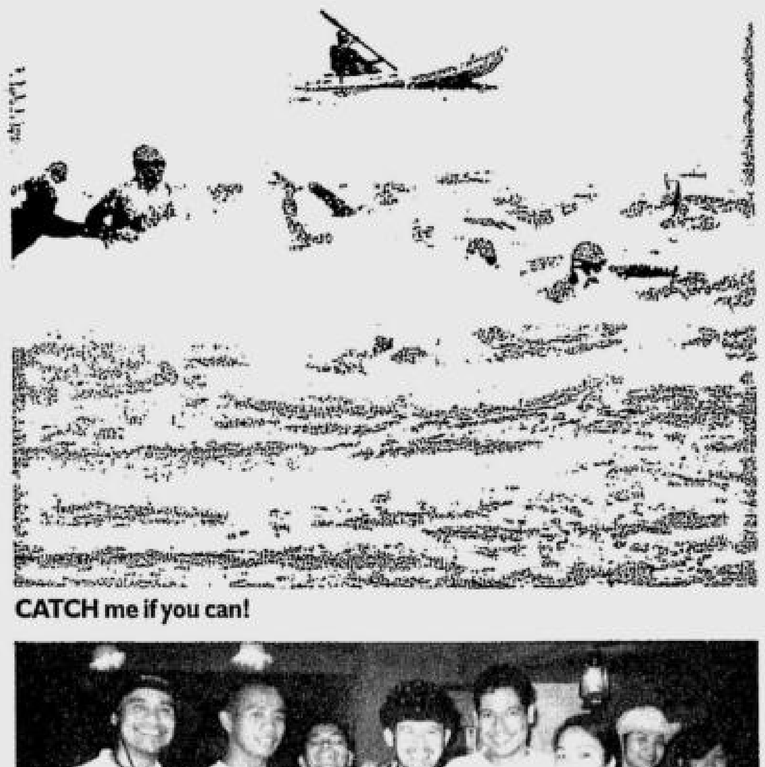
Cartimar has always been the place to shop around for bikes. When I was a kid, we would go there to buy PX (don't really know what that stands for) goods or bikes. Now, imported goods are available all over, but Cartimar is still the place to scout around for bikes. VeloCity and The Bike Room are some of the places worth checking out. But I ended up getting my mountain bike in Power Bikes, the shop of **Beaver Lopez** at Rockwell.

Purchased two days before the race I was to compete in, my Giant brand bike, recommended by **Edmund Mangaser**, came with crash course biking lessons from their tech guy, **Boyet Camba**. Until that day, I didn't realize the bikes have gears on both sides. And they get up to the 10th gear! Boyet even had to teach me how to dismount gracefully.

After practicing for an hour around our village, my rear and all the surrounding muscles, which I didn't even know existed, were beginning to ache.

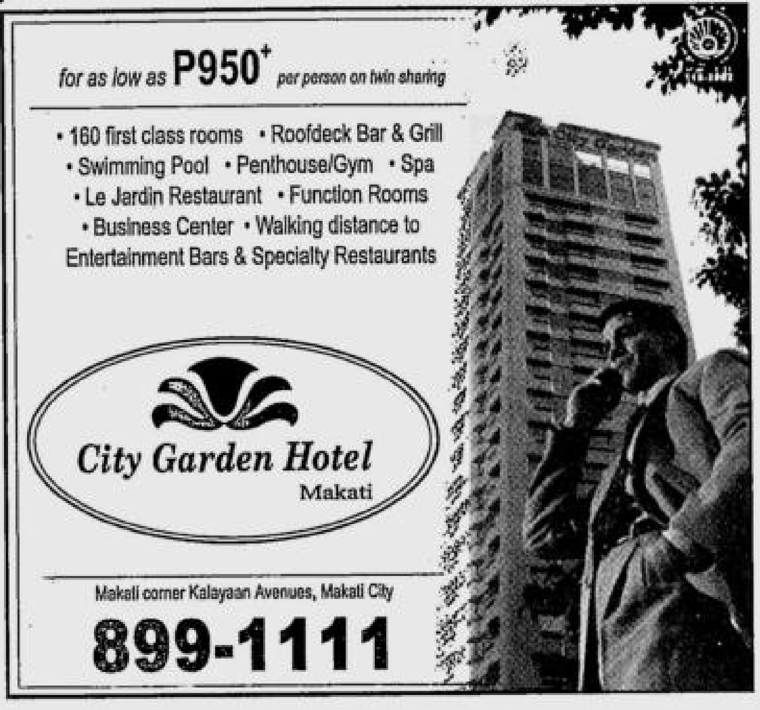
And to think that for additional padding, I even used the thickest sanitary napkin (Kotex overnight maternity pads) available since I

WHEN/J2



CATCH me if you can!

IN THE EX-TRI World, organizer Larry Medenilla, INQUIRER strong man 7th placer Roy Adeva, Darryl de Leon, tri-athletes Dennis Valdes and Jon-jon Rufino, May Benavidez, Juliet Medenilla and Taleng Imperio



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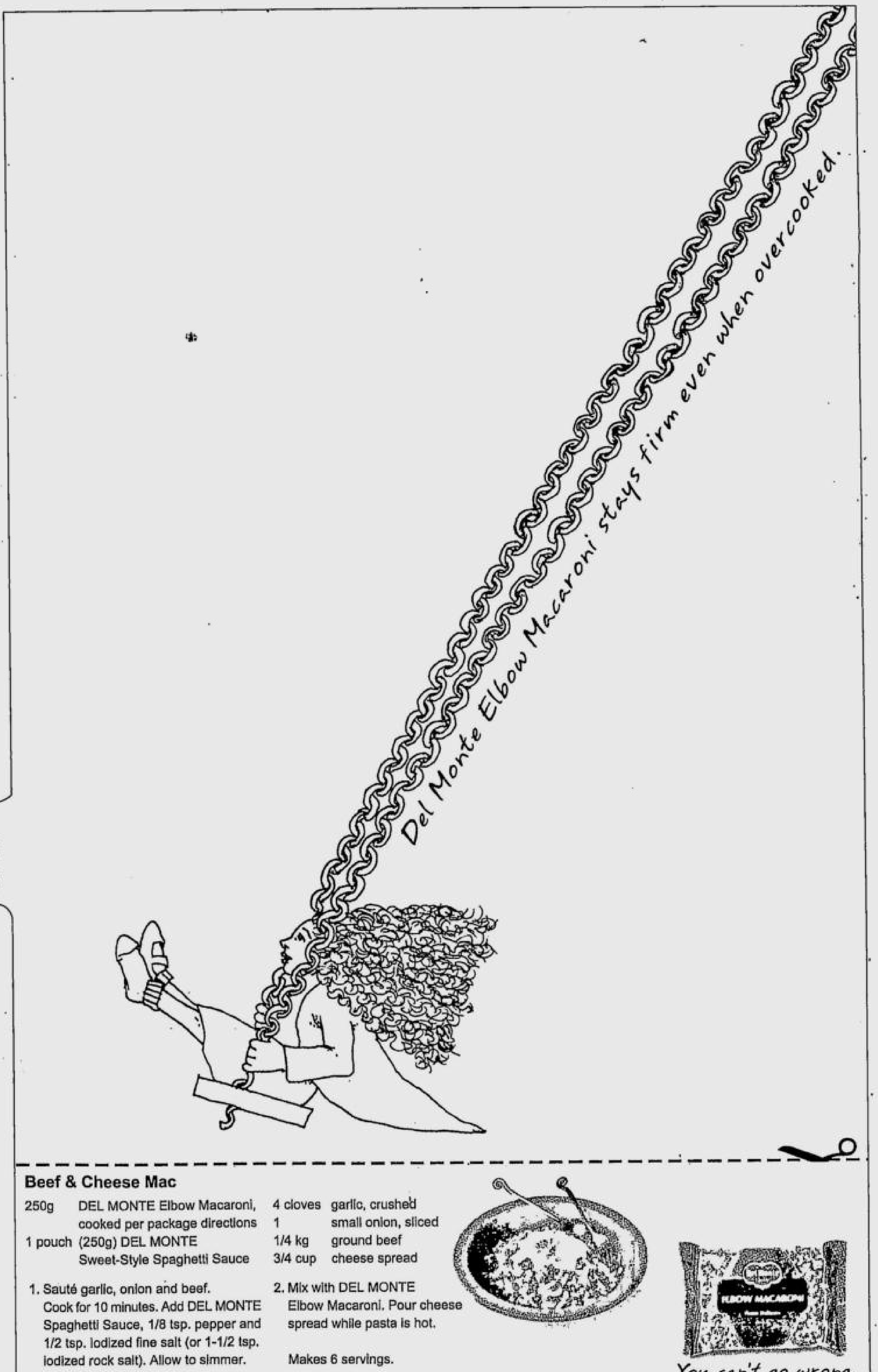

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VELOCITY strong 8th placer George Carag

BEST in swimming and waiting, Dennis Valdes

POWERFUL second placer Rune Stroem

DEO Pulian on the bike leg

JON-JON Rufino breezing through

EX-GAME Plan host Paolo Abrera

When finishing last feels like finishing first

From page J1

forgot to buy cycling shorts. Obviously though, this padding is not to be used during the actual race since the effects can be disastrous as you go through the swim leg. I wonder if men get their family jewels stuck in between the saddle.

Now, that would definitely hurt.

And so I arrived at the Ex-Tri Sa Balai extreme triathlon, armed with my brand new bike, minimal to almost nil training in swimming, biking and running, and all the guts this little Sea Princess could muster.

This off-road triathlon was totally different than the one in Subic. It was in fact the first XTERRA-type race held in the Philippines. Basically, it's like an eco-challenge or an adventure race format, where after the ocean swim, competitors bike through dry river beds, unpaved roads, banana and coconut plantations and, finally, run and hike through mountain trails and beach front.

The Ex-Tri Sa Balai race was a half-Olympic triathlon—a 750-meter swim, a 20k mountain bike and a 5k trail run—but it proved to be much more challenging and strenuous. Held in the faraway land of Laiya, which is past San Juan, Batangas, we opted to drive there on race day instead of sleeping overnight. When we arrived, the Balai Sa Laiya Resort was filled with triathletes getting numbered for the race.

I once again felt the nervous sensation I got before my first race. But now I was more confident because I brought complete gear and more importantly, I brought my own bodyguard/marshal to assist me throughout the race—Dennis. Yes, his husbandly duties now included watching over me throughout the course. Since he had no Federation golf tournament that weekend and because I tortured him, he had no choice.

After the bike inspection by VeloCity and the setting up of all the gear in the transition area and—not to forget—praising God for a beautiful day, we were off to have a blast. The swim portion was the most pleasant, especially since the water was calm, clear and clean.

Larry Medenilla, one of the Ex-Tri organizers, even informed me that they placed an underwater scuba diver to monitor the race from below. By the time I was completing my third loop, I was cursing and wondering why I had pushed myself to these events when socializing is my expertise. I was so far from my element.

Meanwhile, Dennis had come out of the water in 13th place, clocking the swim in under 18 minutes. I, in turn, came out 13th from the last, with a leisurely time of 25 minutes. As we had discussed, Dennis was waiting for me. After donning my cycling get-up and applying all the beauty products such as sun block, hair conditioner, skin moisturizer and body spritzer, our transition time was almost 10 minutes.

We were now ready for the bike leg. Clearly, my priorities were far from time and speed. **Taleng Imperio**, whose husband Eric was one of the organizers, wondered 'if we were even going to take a coffee break before hitting the trail.

By the time we started the bike heat, the top 5 were almost done with the first 10k of the bike leg. I even recognized from the Subic race **Rune Stroem** who eventually placed second. He actually breezed past me, shouting, "Let me through!" while I was biking in my Sunday bike speed.

Biking through dry sand and rough terrain was quite an experience. Again, Dennis waited for me at key areas to coach me and to make sure I was safe.

I think that just proved that I really married the right guy, or alternatively, that he knew that if he didn't wait for me, he would never hear the end of it.

I must have been going so slow that a little girl watching from the sidelines even asked me for a ride! I was just flabbergasted but couldn't stop laughing. I was waving half the time to the town spectators, who must have wondered if I was the muse of the race distributing free Power Bars.

At the end of the bike leg, I was already being escorted by one of the VeloCity boys since I was the last triathlete. He was even giving me helpful tips, which made my life easier. I almost wanted to tie a rope on him and have him pull my bike.

After a much shorter transition time between the bike and the run (we just had to bump/park the bike because we were obligated to run with the helmet and gloves), Dennis finally got my clearance to go ahead with **Darryl de Leon**, one of the organizers, running side by side with me since I was the last competitor. It's their race policy—actually a very nice one—and which also allows them to round up all the marshals manning the different stations.

Thanks to Darryl, I got great tips and assistance through the mountain trail and beach shore run. If I had to do the race again, I would purposely be the last so I could be guided. Besides, in my age group, I was the only participant, so a
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E-mail me at

I must have been going so slow that a little girl watching from the sidelines even asked me for a ride!

SEA Princess, now a Tri-Princess, with host Flip Corpus and the Ex-Tri Gang at Balai Sa Laiya Resort

NC

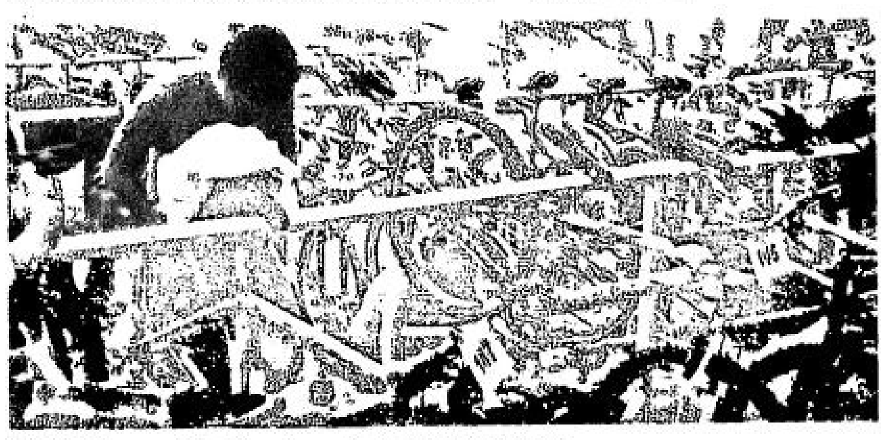
LINO Cayetano at the finish line

CYCLE Zone's Jack Chua with Sean Lim, second placer in Subic age group

ANELIA Primne, top female finisher in both races

BIKE guru Boyet Camba with Power Bikes' Edmund Mangaser

LARRY Ocampo, who finished with a bruised rib



MY NEW mountain bike at my first completed race!

EX-TRI Sa Balai organizer Larry Medenilla with top three winners Patrick Joson, Michael Mariano (first) and Rune Stroem, with resort manager Poch Belamide

TEAM POWER BIKES. Fifth placer Miguel Lopez, Ricky Ledesma, Peter Yabut and Tad Manas

UYAY Orcino and second female placer Rizzo Tanga husbands

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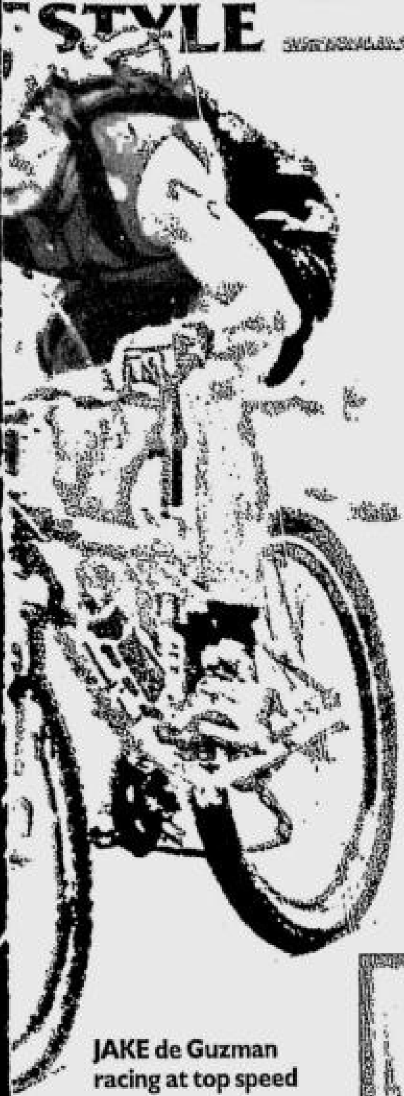
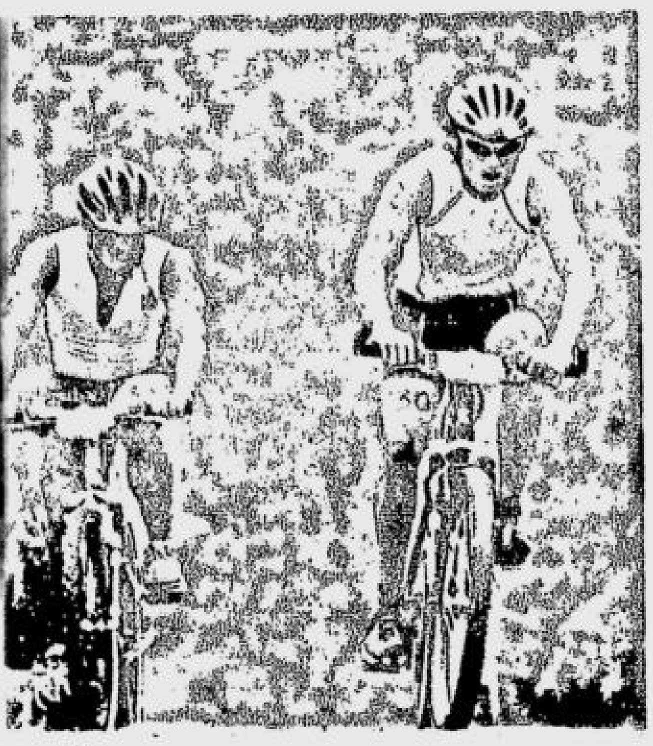


JAKE de Guzman racing at top speed

SEA Princess, full throttle in last place



UPHILL BATTLE. Rick Yupangco and Rocky Umali

PHOTOS: ANTHONY YU

ILLAC Diaz, before and after the race

sweat for Patrick Joson

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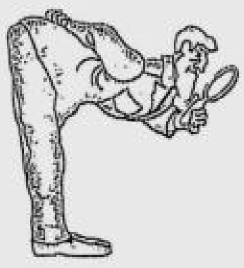

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SYSTEMS ADMINISTRATORS

Male, BS Computer Science graduate; minimum of 3 years relevant work experience; solid background in systems programming using AS400, Novell, UNIX, etc.

CADD OPERATORS

BS Architecture graduate; technical knowledge and hands-on experience in planning and designing of interior lay-out for commercial projects; proficiency in AUTOCADD

HRD OFFICERS/ASSISTANTS

Female, BS/AB Psychology graduate or any related discipline; preferably with 2 years exposure in all aspects of HR functions including but not limited to Recruitment, Training, & Employee Relations; pleasant disposition, with excellent planning, communication and interpersonal skills

NURSES

Female, registered nurse; minimum of 1 year hospital exposure; mature, responsible, with ability to work in shifting schedule and with minimal supervision

VISUAL ARTISTS

Fine Arts graduate major in Interior Design; minimum of 1 year work experience in same capacity; proficiency in Corel Draw, Adobe Photoshop/Illustrator & other graphic software applications

COMPUTER TECHNICIANS

Male, Computer Science/Engineering graduate; minimum of 2 years work experience in maintenance & troubleshooting of PCs; systematic and results-oriented

SUPPORT/ADMINISTRATION

GENSET OPERATORS

Graduate of Mechanical Engineering or related vocational course; technical knowledge and hands-on experience in operating diesel engines with more than 1000hp

ELECTRICAL & RAC TECHNICIANS

Electrical/Refrigeration & Air-Conditioning course graduate; minimum of 1 year exposure in basic electrical works and handling of showcase chillers, freezers and centralized air-conditioning

OPERATIONS

STORE MANAGERS

Bachelor's degree graduate; minimum of 3 years work experience in same capacity from medium to large scale retail or food chain industry; excellent leadership and interpersonal skills

STORE SUPERVISORS

Graduate of Business course preferred; minimum of 1 year supervisory experience from customer/service industry; team-oriented, with above average communication and leadership skills

ADS & PROMOTION OFFICERS

Female, Mass Communications graduate; preferably with experience in same capacity or in public relations; personable, articulate and outgoing; ability to profitably relate with customers

MARKETING OFFICERS/ASSISTANTS

Marketing graduate or any related discipline with relevant work experience; articulate, personable and outgoing; ability to interact effectively with people at all levels

PHARMACISTS & PHARMACY CLERKS

Female, not more than 25 years old; BS Pharmacy graduate; license holder for Pharmacist; alert, with proficiency in oral communication

COOKS/BAKERS

Not more than 38 years old; minimum of 2 years work experience in same capacity from medium to large scale restaurant/bakeshop

PLAIN CLOTHES PERSONNEL

Male, not more than 24 years old, Criminology graduate; responsible, keen and alert; ability to work in shifting schedule

Applicants may send their comprehensive resume with recent photo, application letter, and photocopy of transcript of records to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER
Metro Gaisano
Cebu Business Park
Archbishop Reyes Avenue, Cebu City

email address: mgaisano@mozcom.com

ABENSON
your partner to goodlife

Walter Mart Supermarket IGA

ELECTROWORLD

For our expansion program, we are looking for dynamic, self-driven, highly competitive and result-oriented individuals to fill-up the following positions:

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANTS

* Female not more than 30 years old
* Graduate of Accounting/CPA Board Passer
* With at least (2) years work experience in a similar capacity
* Must be people oriented and good on staff development
* With extensive experience in auditing, FS preparation and analysis
* Willing to rove from Manila to provincial branches
* Exposure in warehouse or retail operations is an advantage
* Excellent in both oral and written communication
* Must be computer literate

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

* Male/Female, not more than 30 years old
* Graduate of Business or any 4 - year service oriented course
* Excellent in both oral and written communication
* Must be aggressive and creative in generating sales and marketing programs
* Must possess strong leadership capability
* Proactive and a team player
* Experience in department stores, supermarket or food chain operations is an advantage

TEAM LEADERS

* Male/Female, not more than 27 years old
* Graduate of any Business course
* Highly competent and hardworking
* Patient and trustworthy
* Customer oriented, flexible and a team player
* Experience in handling retail supermarket store operations is an advantage
* Must possess strong leadership skills

RETAIL SALES COORDINATORS

* Male / Female, not more than 27 years old
* Business course graduate from reputable school
* Customer oriented, flexible, hardworking and trustworthy
* Pleasing personality, fluent in oral and written communication
* Can work with minimum supervision

SYSTEM STAFFS

* Male/Female, not more than 27 years old
* Industrial Engineering graduate from reputable school
* Knowledgeable in Research and Development
* Excellent in both oral and written communication
* Computer Literate
* Highly analytical and detail oriented
* Must be persistent, flexible, hardworking and result-oriented

We offer a highly attractive compensation package, incentive and bonuses commensurate to performance and opportunities for continuing training and development.

ALL QUALIFIED RESPONDENTS MAY APPLY IN PERSON OR MAIL THEIR RESUME WITH PICTURE TO:

ABENSON
SHERIDAN
#11 BENITO BUILDING, SHERIDAN STREET
MANDALUYONG CITY
TEL. #631-8161 TO 64 LOC. 114
M to TH - 7:30am - 9am

Walter Mart
CAVITE
KM. 30 AGUINALDO HIGHWAY
DASMARIÑAS, CAVITE
(046)416-5290
MTW - 9am - 11am

Walter Mart
LAGUNA
BALIBAGO ROAD, SAN LORENZO VILL.
SANTA ROSA, LAGUNA
(049)549-1221
MTW - 9am - 11am

GM

General Motors Automobiles Philippines

We are in need of topnotch personnel to fill below mentioned position immediately!

DEALER SALES OPERATION SUPERVISOR

code: DSS

- Male, at least 28 years old
- Marketing/Management/Engineering Graduate
- Preferably, with 2- 3 years experience with an automotive company handling Dealer operations
- Preferably, knowledgeable in fleet account and business development
- Relatively high level of analytical ability
- High level of interpersonal skills to work effectively with others
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Proficient in computer applications.

Send your resume with a 2x2 colored photo to:
General Motors Automobiles Philippines
33/F Citibank Tower
8741 Paseo de Roxas, Salcedo Village
Makati City

ASAP! REQUIREMENT
RECEPTIONIST/TEL. OPERATOR
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ACCTG. CLERK/HR ASST. (Female)
FACTORY WORKERS (Male)
MARKETING ASST. (Male/Female)
IMPLICARE INTERNATIONAL
TEL. 421-6808

For Immediate Hiring:
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Accounting Graduates
Apply personally at:
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Bring resumé, Transcript and 2x2 picture.

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Fax Resumé 7240839

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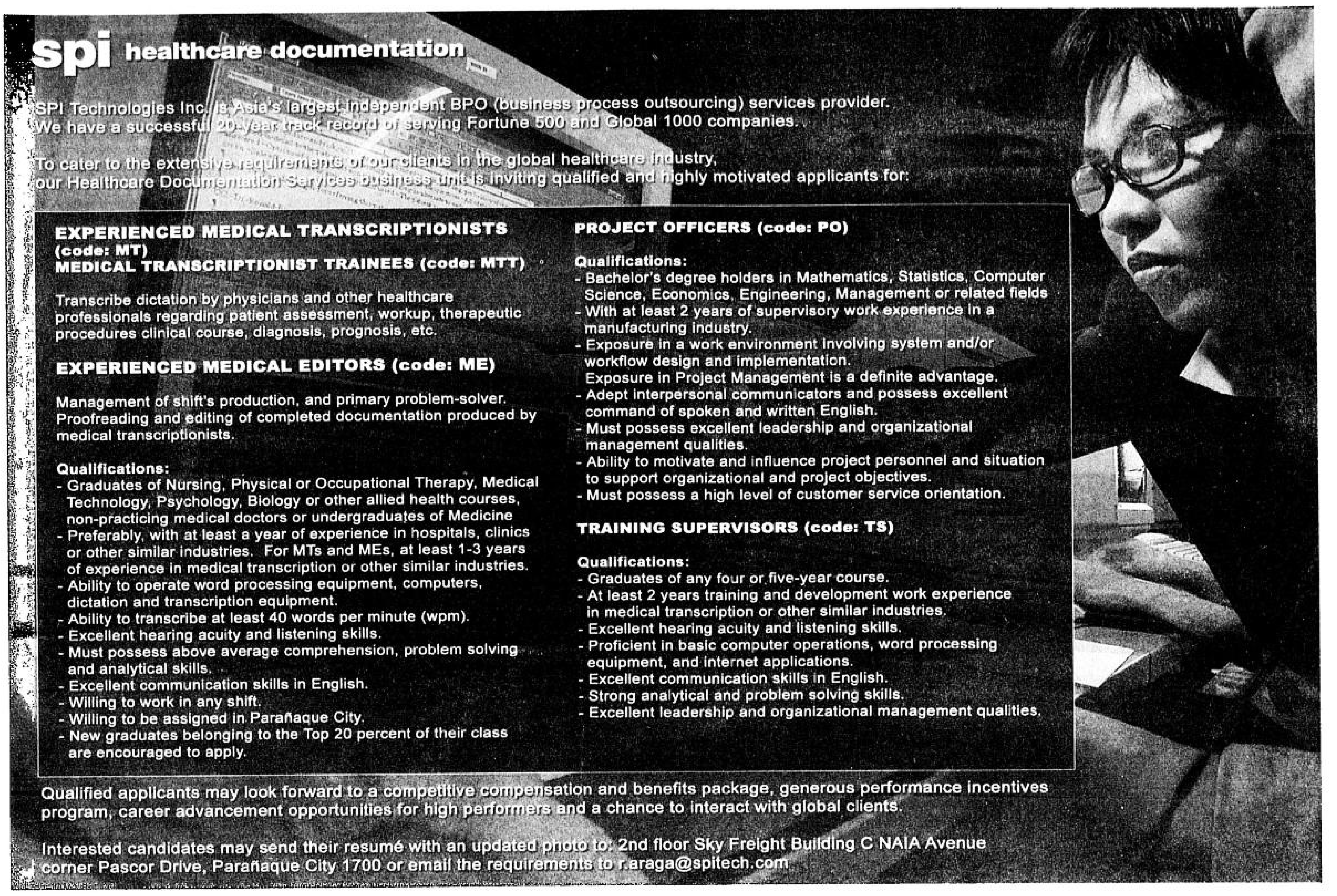
TRANSPORT ATTENDANTS
Antipolo & Marikina residents only
For inquiries call:
681-1125



spi healthcare documentation

SPI Technologies Inc. is Asia's largest independent BPO (business process outsourcing) services provider. We have a successful 20-year track record of serving Fortune 500 and Global 1000 companies.

To cater to the extensive requirements of our clients in the global healthcare industry, our Healthcare Documentation Services business unit is inviting qualified and highly motivated applicants for:

EXPERIENCED MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS (code: MT)
MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONIST TRAINEES (code: MTT)

Transcribe dictation by physicians and other healthcare professionals regarding patient assessment, workup, therapeutic procedures clinical course, diagnosis, prognosis, etc.

EXPERIENCED MEDICAL EDITORS (code: ME)

Management of shift's production, and primary problem-solver. Proofreading and editing of completed documentation produced by medical transcriptionists.

Qualifications:
- Graduates of Nursing, Physical or Occupational Therapy, Medical Technology, Psychology, Biology or other allied health courses, non-practicing medical doctors or undergraduates of Medicine
- Preferably, with at least a year of experience in hospitals, clinics or other similar industries. For MTs and MEs, at least 1-3 years of experience in medical transcription or other similar industries.
- Ability to operate word processing equipment, computers, dictation and transcription equipment.
- Ability to transcribe at least 40 words per minute (wpm).
- Excellent hearing acuity and listening skills.
- Must possess above average comprehension, problem solving and analytical skills.
- Excellent communication skills in English.
- Willing to work in any shift.
- Willing to be assigned in Parañaque City.
- New graduates belonging to the Top 20 percent of their class are encouraged to apply.

PROJECT OFFICERS (code: PO)

Qualifications:
- Bachelor's degree holders in Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, Economics, Engineering, Management or related fields
- With at least 2 years of supervisory work experience in a manufacturing industry.
- Exposure in a work environment involving system and/or workflow design and implementation. Exposure in Project Management is a definite advantage.
- Adept interpersonal communicators and possess excellent command of spoken and written English.
- Must possess excellent leadership and organizational management qualities.
- Ability to motivate and influence project personnel and situation to support organizational and project objectives.
- Must possess a high level of customer service orientation.

TRAINING SUPERVISORS (code: TS)

Qualifications:
- Graduates of any four or five-year course.
- At least 2 years training and development work experience in medical transcription or other similar industries.
- Excellent hearing acuity and listening skills.
- Proficient in basic computer operations, word processing equipment, and internet applications.
- Excellent communication skills in English.
- Strong analytical and problem solving skills.
- Excellent leadership and organizational management qualities.

Qualified applicants may look forward to a competitive compensation and benefits package, generous performance incentives program, career advancement opportunities for high performers and a chance to interact with global clients.

Interested candidates may send their resumé with an updated photo to: 2nd floor Sky Freight Building C NAIA Avenue corner Pascor Drive, Parañaque City 1700 or email the requirements to r.araga@spitech.com

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Isis International-Manila, is a thirty-year old international women's organisation dedicated to women's information and communication needs in the Asia-Pacific region. It advocates and creates opportunities for women's voices to be heard, strengthens feminist analysis and promotes solidarity and support to the women's movement and to other social justice movements across the globe. It conducts research and training programmes to strengthen women's use of media, information and communication technologies.
Isis International-Manila invites qualified feminist applicants with strong roots in the Asia-Pacific region and with extensive experience in the women's movement to apply for the position of

ISIS EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

CORE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE POSITION:

A. **Overall Direction-Setting and Strengthening;** Impacts and enhances Isis' work through the following:
  - Is recognized and commands respect regionally and internationally and can bring a feminist perspective derived from active involvement in the women's movement to Isis analyses and advocacies
  - Must see info-com as a key issue in the women's movement and has extensive experience as an information-communication activist and advocate at the regional and international levels
  - Commitment to a South analysis, to South-South cooperation and to linking with the broader social justice movement
  - Can represent the interests, principles and political positions of the organisation and has the creativity and vision to guide Isis strategic direction-setting
  - Political skills to enhance Isis position as a relevant international organisation located in the South

B. **Fundraising and Networking;** enhances Isis' sustainability and leadership through:
  - Proven track-record in fundraising to create and implement a long-range fundraising and sustainability plan for Isis
  - Strong networks in the region and at the international level for effective fundraising and for opening doors for Isis as a leader in media and info-com advocacy
  - Excellent writing and public speaking skills and a good communicator in diverse milieu

C. **Management and Coordination;** ensures efficient management and accountability within Isis through:
  - Five years of management experience in a women's programme/organisation including supervision, delegation and conflict resolution skills
  - Ability to work with policy-making bodies such as Isis' General Membership and the Board of Trustees
  - Financial management skills
  - Skills in developing realistic plans and programmes to operationalise Isis' vision, mission and goals
  - Basic understanding of information communication technology such as management and facilitation of mailing lists, web design and construction, local area networks and internet services and broadcast media
  - Strong background in publications
  - Ability to create an environment where learning and critical feedback are a part of the work culture

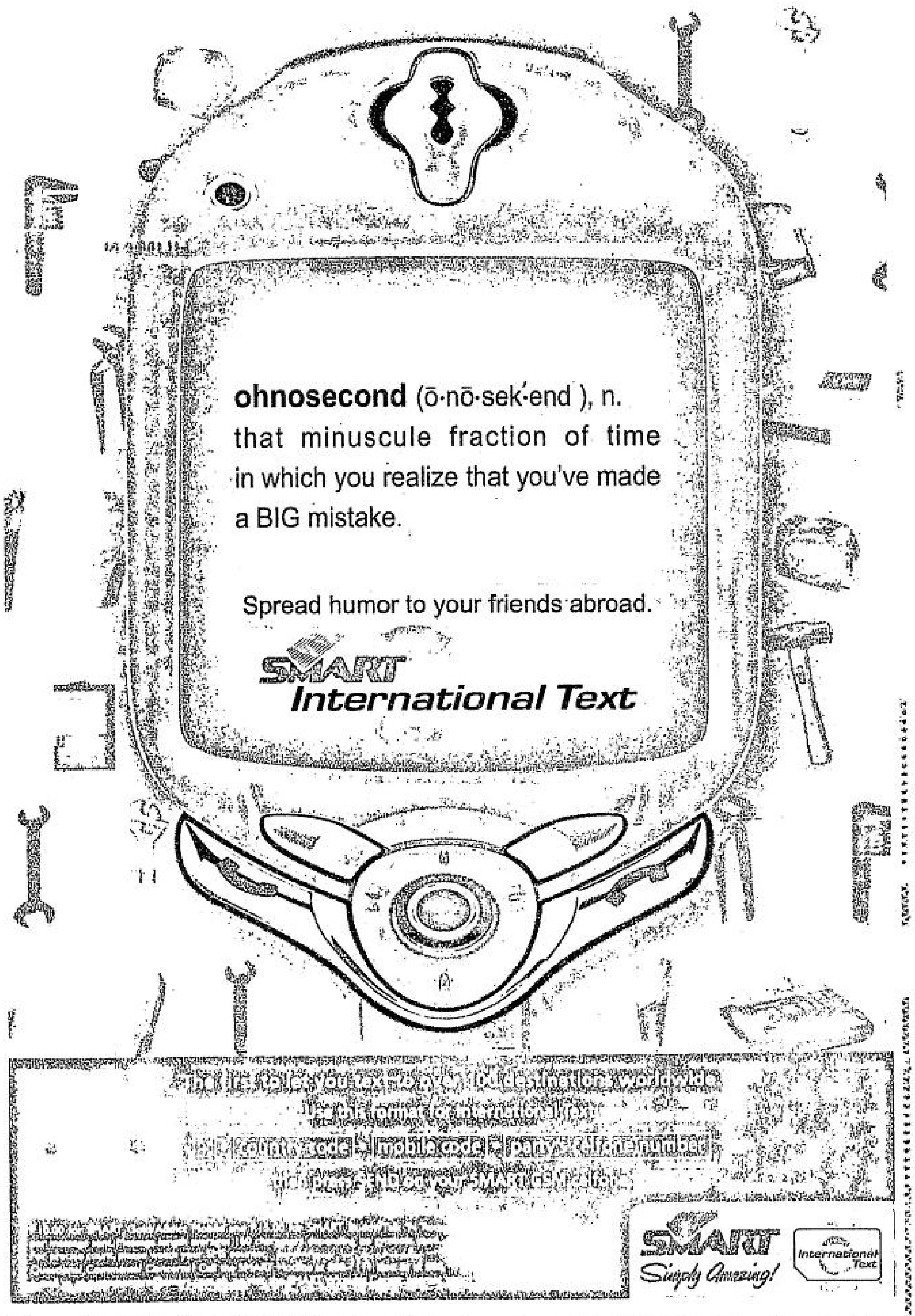
Personal Qualities:
- Feminist leader with a personal commitment to social justice who motivates and inspires by example
- Promotes respect for cultural diversity and tolerance within a non-partisan and secular workplace
- Open to receiving feedback and criticism and demonstrates the ability to change and be flexible
- Consultative and transparent in decision-making; encourages staff participation and consensus
- Is organised, manages her time well and functions well under pressure
- Can adapt to living in a different culture and Third World urban conditions

Minimum Requirements:
* Bachelor's Degree * Five years management experience * Fluent in written and oral English plus one other language from the Asia-Pacific region

Additional Benefits for Expatriates:
A modest relocation package and benefits in addition to the monthly salary including: * monthly salary payable in US$ and local currency * monthly housing allowance * lump-sum subsidy for furnishings * annual paid home leave * freight allowance during transfer

Interested parties please apply electronically by no later than **September 7, 2003**, with an application letter, resume (5 pages only), three reference names with contact tel. nos., and recent photo to:

Isis International-Manila, ed-apply@isiswomen.org
For inquiries you may e-mail us at isis@isiswomen.org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Tel. Nos.: 8901152-54, 8901187; Fax No.: 8957463
Email:joan@budjmanila.com.ph

URGENTLY NEEDED
1-COST ESTIMATOR-FURNITURE PRODUCTS
Qualifications:
1. Male, not more than 30 years old
2. Preferably Architecture or Engineering graduate
3. 2 years experience in furniture making
4. With pleasing personality
5. Knowledgeable in basic computer application
6. Willing to work extended hours

NEEDED FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

We are a manufacturing company that needs a

COST ACCOUNTING OFFICER

Desired qualification as follows: Accounting major, CPA an advantage. At least 5 years accounting experience in a manufacturing set-up. Computer literate, with BIR tax accounting knowledge, understands product development and with merchandise costing background, male.

Please send your comprehensive resumé, 2x2 colored picture and other credentials at:

HRD Department
P.O. Box 589
Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila

JAK Milestone Food Corp.

(a franchise of Jollibee Foods Corp.)

Is in need of

Management Trainees & Store Marketing Officers

Qualifications:
- 21-26 years old
- College degree holder, preferably a graduate of Business, HRM or Marketing
- Proficient in both written & oral English
- Self-motivated
- Dynamic & Results-oriented
- Customer service oriented

Please send updated resumé and transcript of records together with a recent 2x2 photo to:

#16 Gen. Gutierrez St., San Juan, Metro Manila

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Our vision is **Customers for Life**. If you believe you have what it takes to achieve this vision, then join us in our expansion and be a part of our dynamic team!

ELECTRO-MECHANICAL DEVICE CODE DEVELOPER

Job Summary
Responsible for the development of micro-code modules to control electro-mechanical devices in laser and inkjet printers. Works closely with other team members to develop the overall control code for a particular machine. The work involves the control of print engine devices such as motors, laser scanning units, power supplies, fusing devices, carriage movement systems, inkjet printhead maintenance stations, etc. to achieve paper movement and the fixation of the image on the paper.

Qualifications
- Must be a graduate of BS or MS in Computer Engineering with specialties in firmware and embedded device code;
- Experience in C programming language is required;
- A good understanding of controlling electro-mechanical devices is needed;
- Working knowledge of Linux and experience developing on the Unix platform is a requisite;
- Experience with and knowledge of laser printers is an added advantage;
- Has at least 2 years of relevant work experience, and willing to be trained in the U.S. for about 6 months.

ELECTRO-PHOTOGRAPHIC ENGINEER

Job Summary
Works on the development of laser printer Electro-Photographic (EP) Technology. Responsible for the analysis and debugging of EP printer problems requiring proficient utilization of high-voltage probes, oscilloscopes, data analyzers, DVM and various other types of instrumentation. In addition, performs the analytical evaluation of specific EP process using software tool such as Excel.

Qualifications
- Must have a BS degree in any of the following: Physics, Mechanical Engineering, Electronics & Communications Engineering, Computer Engineering, or Chemical Engineering;
- Should have some EP process and EP component level understanding;
- Knowledge of the laser printer EP process including the effects of changes to mechanical, chemical, and electrical properties of components on the EP system is required;
- System/interactive problem solving skills are needed;
- Has at least 2 years of relevant work experience, and willing to be trained in the U.S. for about 6 months.

ELECTRONICS & COMMUNICATIONS ENGINEER

Job Summary
Responsible for the development of electronics for printers. Will be fully or partially in charge of the following printer electronic subsystems: system controller platform, custom system ASIC, low-voltage or high-voltage power supply, analog ASIC, sensor applications, operator panel, cables.

Qualifications
- Must be a graduate of BS or MS in Electronics & Communications Engineering;
- With proven skills on a work environment in one or more of the following: electronic circuit design, ASIC design, analysis, simulation, test and debug, printed circuit board layout, electronics packaging, EMC compliance for printer electronics;
- Has at least 2 years of relevant work experience, and willing to be trained in the U.S. for about 6 months.

MECHANICAL ENGINEER

Job Summary
Working in the areas of laser and inkjet printers' mechanical development and design, main responsibility is the design and development of electro-mechanical hardware products and systems including development of new products and/or updates to existing products. Specific areas of responsibility may include the design/synthesis of paper separation and feeding mechanisms, printer structural components, image transfer and fusing hardware, power train systems and covers.

Qualifications
- Must be a graduate of BS or MS in Mechanical Engineering;
- With experience in the design and manufacture of imaging and/or consumer products and has demonstrated an ability to develop products from the conceptual stage until product production;
- Highly skilled in the use of CAD/CAM systems, solid modeling, and in the creation of engineering documentation;
- Has proven extensive knowledge in hands-on laboratory mechanical work, testing methods, and root cause analysis;
- Familiar with the manufacturing and design processes used to produce printer components;
- Willing to do research, evaluation, development, and appliction of new processes and methods;
- Has at least 2 years of relevant work experience, and willing to be trained in the U.S. for about 6 months.

SOFTWARE ENGINEERS

Qualifications
- A graduate of either BS Computer Engineering or Computer Science;
- Strong in C/C++ programming language;
- Knowledgeable with MAC/Unix/Linux operating systems and programming;
- Has working background in object oriented programming, especially in embedded environments;
- Adept in Software Development Life Cycle and Design documents like Sequence Diagrams, Code Reviews and Unit Testing;
- Has documentation / test experience such as writing test plans and/or performing test plan reviews;
- With at least 3 years of relevant work experience.

MAC BUILD ENGINEER

Qualifications
- A graduate of BS Computer Engineering/BS Computer Science or its related field;
- Has a working background in Apple Script/PERL Script, MAC/Linux environment, Shell Scripting, CVS, and a basic understanding of Library Fundamentals;
- With at least 3 years of relevant work experience;
- Knowledge in MindVision IVISE or MVP Installer software is a plus.

Candidates must have strong English communications skills, and can produce results with minimum supervision.

**LEXMARK IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER.
WE DO NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST RACE, COLOR, RELIGION,
SEX, CIVIL STATUS, NATIONAL ORIGIN AND AGE.**

The company is a fast growing, integrated global developer and designer of software or firmware for Lexmark's printer products with headquarters in Lexington, Kentucky, U.S.A. We offer an attractive compensation package as well as opportunities for professional growth and development to the successful candidates.

Interested and qualified applicants may send a comprehensive résumé with transcript of records, to the address below not later than 03 August 2003:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Lexmark Research & Development Corporation
Globe Isla Plaza, Samar Loop corner Panay Road,
Cebu Business Park, Cebu City
or You can e-mail your résumé
(with position applied as subject) to: lrdchrd@lexmark.com

JOB OPENINGS

PERSONNEL & ADMIN MANAGER

Graduate of Human Resources Management or any Behavioral Science course;male or female, not over 35 years old; with at least 3-5 years experience in Personnel and Administration functions, 2 years of which in a supervisory position; with working knowledge in basic MS applications and in formulating and implementing effective Personnel and Administration programs; Pro-active, results-oriented, with unblemished integrity; computer literate.

DISTRIBUTION CENTER MANAGER

College graduate, preferably with accounting background; male, not over 35 years old; with at least 3-5 years related experience in all aspects of warehousing and shipments operations;with good interpersonal skills, highly organized and results-oriented; computer literate.

MERCHANDISING MANAGER

College graduate, not over 35 years old, with at least 3 years brand development and marketing experience in the garments industry; with competency in product development; with excellent communication, presentation, interpersonal, leadership and strong decision-making skills.

PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

College graduate, male or female; not over 35 years old, with at least 5 years relevant product development experience; With good knack for fashion & sensitive to changing customer needs; innovative, modern & research oriented; have gut feel in market trends; specialized in product development of Tops & Bottoms for Men's, Ladies & Kids; With excellent communication skills, presentation, interpersonal leadership and strong decision-making skills;computer proficient & keen to details.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

College graduate; preferably male, not over 30 years old; preferably single; with at least 1 year related experience; aggressive and eager to learn; with good interaction skills; street smart but strategic in perspective; highly analytical, computer literate.

SALES INVENTORY ANALYST

Graduate of any business related course; female; not more than 28 yrs old; willing to be trained; good written and oral communications skills; can work with minimum supervision; with excellent analytical and computer skills; keen on details, persistent, hardworking, and results-oriented.

Applicants may send their resume with 2x2 ID picture and TOR to:

freego

EINSCO COMPANY, INC.

c/o Marssha Tower 1318 Franco cor. Moriones St., Tondo, Manila or e-mail us at einsco@netasia.net or call us at (02) 255-0351 to 59. Look for Ms. Girlie

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ePLDT

IS IN NEED OF EMPLOYEES
for its *CALL CENTERS*

Team Leaders:

The position is responsible for shift management capabilities; managing varying skills of employees; deciphering statistical performance reports; superior customer service skills; strong multi-tasking and delegation skills; strong communication skills, both written and oral; high level of interpersonal skills; high level of organizational skills and computer literate to deal with experience using Microsoft Office products.

Requires a college graduate with minimum two (2) years experience within a service driven corporation and minimum of one (1) year leadership experience in a call center customer service role.

Quality Assurance Specialists:

Has outstanding communication skills, both written and oral; computer literate; ability to perform in a fast-paced dynamic environment; able to maintain an objective opinion; demonstrates proactive approach to workload with a keen sense of urgency and flexible in relation to work hours.

Requires a college graduate with minimum of one (1) year experience in a customer service environment. Preferably with knowledge of basic database concepts; has training or presentation experience and understanding of call centre operations and telephone systems.

Operations Support Center Specialists:

Statistical analysis; ability to effectively liaise with internal and external customers at all levels; consistent demonstrated performance; team player; attention to detail and accuracy; proactive and lateral thinker; active listening skills and ability to work to strict deadlines.

Preferably tertiary qualification in MIS, Business, Economics, Statistics or Mathematics with a minimum of one (1) year experience in the Call Centre Industry. Has the ability to comprehend and apply statistical techniques to business requirements and strong mathematical ability and demonstrated ability to work in a disciplined to business requirements.

Trainers:

The position is responsible to design, deliver and review product specific training, developmental courses and orientation. Proactively assess skill gaps in operations versus skills and knowledge imparted through the learning environment.

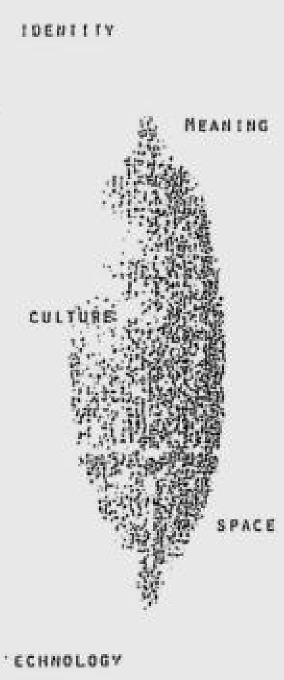
College graduate degree qualified; worked in a call centre environment; comprehensive understanding of a call centre environment; previous training or presentation experience; excellent in written and verbal communication skills, organizational skills, presentation skills and interpersonal skills; excellent computer literacy with a variety of software packages.

Customer Service Representatives:

College graduate of any 4-year course; proficient in conversational English; customer oriented; highly motivated and has the initiative to learn with keen attention to details; with pleasant disposition, high tolerance for stress and excellent judgment skills; willing to work on shifting schedule and extended working hours; computer literate and proficient in keyboarding.

*Qualified interested applicants may send their resume
thru email address jobs@epldt.com*

DO YOU
SEE WHAT
WE SEE?



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Send your application letter, resume, and porfolio to

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UBF

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- Supported by Renowned Swiss-Financial Institutions

Courses Offered

Bachelor of Business Administration	Bachelor of Finance	MBA or Master in Finance
Qualification: High School diploma and entrance exam	Qualification: High School diploma and entrance exam	Qualification: Graduate (Any Discipline)
Duration: 3 Years	Duration: 3 Years	Duration: 18 months (Inclusive of 6 months paid internship)

**Ms. EDESSA RAMOS (Dean of Student Affairs / Language Program Director) will answer all your inquiries, Phone: (02) 921-9129 or Cell: (0916) 557-6817.
PERSONAL INTERVIEWS AND SPOT ADMISSIONS until SEPTEMBER 22, 2003.
Email: EdessaRamos@solnet.ch or visit us at www.ubfs.ch**

Interested in being an **AGENT** or **REFERRER**? Handsome commissions for every student you send to Switzerland. Inquire at the above numbers.

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Our company belongs to the fastest growing industry today. It has recently embarked on an aggressive recruitment campaign and will assign qualified applicants to various positions within our organization.

FRESH GRADUATES ARE WELCOME TO APPLY!
Interested applicants may apply personally from Monday to Wednesday. Please come in business attire and bring your comprehensive resumé, original copies of credentials and 2"x2" ID Photo to:

15th Floor The World Centre,
330 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue,
Makati City, Look for Richard

For provincial applicants:
2nd Floor Central Plaza I Bldg.
JP Laurel Avenue, Davao City

Variable sources of income include commission, bonuses on good performances, transportation and representation allowances.

WANTED

CADD Operator

- B.S. Architecture graduate
- 3-5 years experience
- Proficient in AutoCAD2000, MS Office, Adobe Photoshop

Apply in person with resumé, transcript of records and sample of work.

**Unit 3D, PSBank Building
136 Katipunan Rd, St. Ignatius, QC 1110
Tel. 438-8527, 421-2801**

**Sales/Support
Consultant for U.S. Company**

Vignettes
For Training

Vignettes for Training, a leading US Company providing distance learning services, is looking for consultants to provide sales and support functions for its US based clients. The job requires a combination of email and phone sales, consulting and technical support.

Applicants must meet the following requirements:
- ✓ College degree in communication and arts or computer science
- ✓ Experience in sales and technical support for US businesses
- ✓ Experience in selling services like training, advertising or Internet services
- ✓ Skills in PC, Office, graphics, Flash and html
- ✓ Adept in Internet browsing and familiar with online technologies
- ✓ Must be willing to work night shift in Makati
- ✓ Excellent written and verbal communication
- ✓ At least 5 years previous work experience

Excellent compensation plus performance bonuses are given to successful candidates.

Please email resumés to HR@vignettestraining.com. Include examples of work in web sites, graphics, Flash and others. Visit www.vignettestraining.com to learn more about VFT.

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[illegible] Avenue
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Subic Bay Freeport Zone, Phils. 2200
Tel No. 252-7740 / Fax 252-6223

"""OUR COMPANY IS IN NEED OF A HIGH CALIBER CANDIDATES WHO CAN FILL UP THIS POSITION"""

LOGISTICS AND PLANNING SUPERVISOR

(Computer System Plant)

Qualifications:
- Male/Less than 35 years old, Mechanical Engineering graduate; Preferably can speak English fluently, Must have at least 4 years experience in Quality Engineering & Management, Must have a thorough knowledge in Inventory and Cost Analysis, Familiar with Problem Solving and Failure Analysis, Must have an operational knowledge in production control

Requirements:
- Updated resumé with recent photo • Diploma/Transcript of Records • Birth Certificate • Employment Certificate

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR RESUME TO:

THE PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT
c/o WISTRON INFOCOMM (PHILS), CORP.

For Immediate hiring, part-time or student

CHEF, CASHIER, SUPERVISOR, WAITER, BARISTA, DISHWASHER, JANITOR

Ricco-Renzo Galleries:
898-2545/ ricco_@yahoo.com
LRI Business Plaza,
210 N. Garcia St., Bel Air,
Makati City

SM

NOW HIRING

invites career-oriented and dynamic professionals to join our soon to open branches in

Marilao, Lucena and Baguio.

Candidates for the position should have the following competencies:

- ✓ excellent communication skills (both verbal and written form)
- ✓ can relate well with all levels of the organization
- ✓ proficient in computer software applications
- ✓ team player, goal oriented and able to work well under pressure
- ✓ willing to grow with the organization
- ✓ willing to work on weekends and holidays

Interested parties may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the following **SM Department Stores (Satellite Offices):**

SM Baguio - 3rd Floor, HPC Building,
Kisad Road, Baguio City
SM Lucena - Villa Consuelo, Enverga Boulevard,
Red-V, Lucena City
SM Marilao - St. Martin of Tours, Credit &
Development Cooperative, Bunto,
Bocaue, Bulacan

Please bring 3 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background and photocopy of your Transcript of Records and College Diploma together with the original copies.

E-mail: Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

SUPPORT/ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

ACCOUNTING MANAGER/OFFICER

Certified Public Accountant (CPA); with at least 3 years work experience in all accounting operations

ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONS MANAGER/COORDINATOR

(For Metro Manila)

Bachelor's Degree in Marketing or Communications; with at least 1 to 2 years experience in advertising; must be creative and with good fashion sense; good verbal and written communication skills required

TREASURY MANAGER/SUPERVISOR

female, graduate of Accounting or Banking & Finance; with at least 3 years experience in funds management or treasury functions; familiar with banking operations and Central Bank procedures

TRAINING OFFICER

(Quiapo • Las Piñas • North Edsa • Bicutan)

graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year Business course; at least 2 years related work experience-knowledgeable in the conduct of training needs; analysis, design, implementation and evaluation of training programs and activities related to behavior and skills of employees

DISPLAY OFFICER

female, graduate of Fine Arts, Advertising or Interior Design or any 4-year related course; with at least 1 year experience in visual merchandising

DESIGN OFFICER

female, graduate of Architecture, preferably licensed; knowledgeable in AutoCADD application

COMPUTER OPERATOR/TECHNICIAN

male, graduate of Computer Science/Engineering; preferably with experience in the repair, trouble shooting and maintenance of cash registers

NURSE

female, licensed Nurse; with at least 2 years experience in medical establishment or Company Nurse

SUPPORT/ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

OFFICE ASSISTANTS

(Human Resource • Treasury • Accounting • Customer Service)

female, graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Communication Arts, Business Management, Accountancy or Computer Science; personable, fast-learner and willing to work on extended hours

OPERATIONS GROUP

BUILDING ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

male, graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering; with at least two (2) years work experience in property management and building administration in the same capacity; able to lead group and prioritize work load to meet deadlines

SELLING MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

female, graduate of any 4-year business course; with at least 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales in the same capacity; personable and can handle customer concerns and complaints effectively

COUNTER & CHECKING MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

female, graduate of any 4-year business course; with at least 1 year experience in credit card transactions in the same capacity; flexible and can handle customer concerns and complaints effectively

WAREHOUSE MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

male, graduate of any 4-year business course; with intensive experience in warehousing and other related functions preferably in retail business; able to lead and motivate staff and foster a team working environment

CUSTOMER RELATIONS MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

male, 5'5 1/2" in height, female, 5'2" in height; graduate of Criminology or at least 2nd year college; flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned in provincial branches; must be physically fit and willing to work on extended hours; with at least 1 year related work experience

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Career opportunities
in a growing regional bank...

We are inviting top caliber individuals to apply for the position of:

GL/ACCOUNTING-SYSTEMS OFFICER

The candidate must be a graduate of BS Accountancy, preferably a CPA; With minimum of five (5) years banking experience in a supervisory capacity; Experienced in Bank GL Administration and/or automation of bank accounting processes; Should be proficient in Windows, Excel, Word and PowerPoint; With excellent oral and written communication skills.

For the qualified applicant, we offer a competitive compensation package and opportunities for career growth and development.

Interested candidates may send their application letter, comprehensive resumé and recent 2x2 photograph to:

P.O. Box 4035
MANILA

All applications will be treated with utmost confidentiality.

YOUR CONNECTION TO

BETTER PEOPLE, BETTER JOBS.

JOBMarket ONLINE

visit us at
www.jobmarketonline.com

Service Technician

Description: a trading company engaged in the supply of beverage dispensers, has immediate job opening for Service Technician.

Skills Required: Qualified candidates will have a Mechanical Engineering Background or at least 1 year hands-on experience in Refrigeration Service. Strong understanding of refrigeration theory and the ability to read ladder diagrams also required. Sales and Marketing experience is a plus. Must have good communication skills both in written and oral English. Must be willing to travel and have a valid driver's license.

Please send your resumé before July 31, 2003 to:

Total Corporate Network Inc.
1903-B West Tower
Philippine Stock Exchange Center
Exchange Road, Ortigas Centre, Pasig City
Attention: Ms. Michelle Urgena

THE WORLD BANK
World Bank Office Manila

REQUIRES A

TEAM ASSISTANT

The World Bank Office, Manila (WBOM) has a vacancy for a Team Assistant to provide efficient and high quality operational, secretarial and administrative support to the Operations Country Services – Portfolio Management and Quality (OCS-PMQ) Team. This position will be for a two-year term appointment, subject to one-year probationary period, with possibility of renewal. The successful candidate will provide comprehensive and proactive support to the Manager, OCS and two Operations Officers (OOs) in their portfolio management and quality assurance functions, particularly in the monitoring of both the loans and trust funds (TF) portfolio.

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

Maintain accurate and up to date portfolio data; Assist in preparing portfolio management reports, including collecting data, preparing tables/graphs, and conducting simple spreadsheet analysis; Assist in preparing necessary documents, including presentation materials, for portfolio and quality related meetings and trainings; Perform quality control by ensuring documents adhere to Bank guidelines, clearance requirements and processing procedures; Provide research support to the team, including the search and retrieval of information from the internet and other sources; Provide support in maintaining the portfolio related webpages in the WBOM External Website; Assist with follow-up on specific actions or information required; Maintain up to date contacts database; Assist in organizing meetings, including handling all administrative and logistical arrangements, preparing and assembling of meeting materials, coordinating with partners inside and outside the Bank, and preparing minutes, as necessary; Draft responses to routine correspondence; Maintain records and filing systems for the team.

Selection Criteria:

- College graduate, preferably with major in Accounting, Finance, Business Administration or Management; minimum five (5) years of relevant experience.
- Excellent organization, research/analytical and presentation skills.
- Strong interpersonal skills and ability to liaise effectively and professionally with a wide range of clients (internal and external).
- High degree of initiative, flexibility, attention to details and resourcefulness with a drive for efficiency and results.
- Ability to work capably under stress and to juggle multiple tasks within tight deadlines.
- Highly proficient in computer software applications (Excel, Powerpoint, Word, Microsoft Project, database program) and adept in using the Internet/Intranet. Experience with SAP and Lotus Notes will be an advantage as well as familiarity with web administration.
- Strong written and oral communication skills.

The World Bank offers a competitive compensation package based on the local market, and attractive medical and pension plans. The salary will not be subject to income tax.

Please send your application letter, with comprehensive resume with details of your work experience, academic records, recent photo, references (at least three names with full contact details) not later than July 25, 2003 to:

KSEARCH ASIA CONSULTING INC

KSearch Asia Consulting, Inc., c/o Joel M. Yap at 22/F 139 Corporate Centre, 139 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or email to jyap@ksearch.com.ph; fax to 893-6259.

Chowking

Trabahong takam tingin? Apply ka na rin!

STORE MARKETING OFFICER

- Male or Female, not more than 27 years old.
- Must be a graduate of BSC Marketing, Advertising, Management and the like.
- Can conceptualize and implement effective marketing strategies.
- Must possess good communication and notable salesmanship and interpersonal skills.
- Flexible and highly motivated.

SYSTEMS OFFICER

- Must be a graduate of BS Industrial Engineering, Hotel & Restaurant Management or Hotel and Restaurant Administration.
- With at least 2-3 years working experience in a customer service oriented organization preferably in the food service.
- With experience in planning and implementing a store design standard.
- Can establish and standardize work process flow, layout and procedures which will ensure maximum space utilization and efficiency of operations.
- Must have significant project management experience.
- Must be organized and has excellent analytical and numeric skills.
- Proficient in computer software.

ACCOUNTANT

- Male or Female, not more than 27 years old.
- A graduate of BS Accountancy.
- With at least 1-2 years experience in bookkeeping, cost accounting, and general accounting under a computerized environment.
- Analytical and result oriented.

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY SEND THEIR RESUME TO:
HR-RECRUITMENT DEPARTMENT
CHOWKING FOOD CORPORATION
7th Floor Jollibee Center San Miguel Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING!

A leading multinational transport company is in need of a dynamic, assertive and mature professional to occupy the following position in our organization:

MARKETING EXECUTIVE

- Male or Female, not more than 30 years old with pleasing personality
- Holder of an appropriate college degree from a reputable school
- Must have relevant sales work experience in the same capacity preferably in air, land and sea transport
- Willing to travel anywhere in the Philippines
- Computer literate, has good communication skills, willing to listen and learn, mature and organized, and can work extended hours

An attractive compensation package awaits the successful candidates.

Qualified candidates are requested to **personally submit** their comprehensive and detailed resumé indicating the minimum salary desired, latest 2 x 2 photo, telephone number/s and other credentials **not later than JULY 21, 2003** to:

MOF Company (Subic), Inc.
6th Floor, CTC Building,
2232 Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City,
Metro Manila, Philippines

Attention: THE LEGAL & PERSONNEL AFFAIRS DEPT.

A fast growing international agrochemical company is looking for a young, efficient

SECRETARY / OPERATIONS ASSISTANT

- Female, single, below 26 yrs. old.
- Computer literate – preferably knowledgeable in Microsoft Office.
- Familiar in the use of Microsoft Outlook & Internet Explorer.
- With at least 1-2 years experience as secretary. Exposure in operations, logistics & other support functions are added qualifications.
- Good communication skills in English (oral and written).

**NOTE – Previous applicants need not apply.*

Interested applicants may please forward their resumé, "2x2" picture and other credentials including salary history to:

BIOSTADT AGRISCIENCES, INC.
307 Grace Bldg., Ortigas Avenue
Greenhills, San Juan 1500, Metro Manila
Tel #: 723-1238; 723-3482 Fax #: 723-1237
E-mail : biostadt@mozcom.com

Importer of Restaurant, Bakery Equipment, and Snack Food Machinery

SALES EXECUTIVES

- Mktg. / Eng'g. male graduates
- New graduates may apply
- Below 30 years of age
- Field work
- Salary plus commission

QNIX INT'L. CORPORATION
1017 Roman Street, Binondo, Manila
Tel. Nos. 243-6130 to 32

Isis International-Manila, *is an international women's media information and communication service organisation based in the Philippines committed to strengthening the women's movement through capacity building in information and communications work of women activists. We are in search of people who share this commitment, to apply for the following position:*

INFORMATION, DOCUMENTATION & RESOURCES PROGRAMME (IDRP) MANAGER

The successful candidate will (1) lead and oversee the programme's management and development; (2) contribute to the development of analyses on institutional advocacies; (3) monitor trends affecting the women's movement and the women in the region; and (4) develop and promote the Resource Centre's services, information products and activities.

Minimum Requirements:

- Has at least 5 years of substantial NGO development work experience as a manager preferably in a women's organisation.
- Has experience and/or exposure to women's and information communication issues and trends at the national, regional and international level.
- Experienced in supervising staff and knows when to delegate tasks to supervisors and associates.
- Is very experienced in the development of institutional and programme planning activities.
- Experienced in financial management and accountability.
- Has a basic understanding of library management and feminist documentation practice
- Has strong background in research work that covers design, implementation, presentation and coordination
- Has background in publications work with strong writing and editing skills
- Has ease of communications and database and information dissemination using new ICTs.
- Proven track record of networking and fundraising
- Has excellent writing and public speaking skills and is a good communicator in diverse milieu.

The person we are looking for:

- Must have a Bachelor's degree or equivalent combination of education and relevant experience
- Is willing to travel locally and regionally and with a valid passport

Besides a monthly salary payable in U.S.$ and local currency, an Expatriate chosen for the post shall receive these modest additional benefits: ♦ relocation package, ♦ monthly housing allowance, ♦ lump-sum subsidy for furnishings, ♦ annual paid home leave, ♦ freight allowance during transfer.

Deadline for submission is July 30, 2003. Interested parties may send application letter with latest picture, CV, writing sample of articles and/or research papers, and three reference names with telephone nos. to:

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Isis International-Manila
#3 Marunong Street, Barangay Central, Quezon City
Fax No.: (632) 924-1065
Email: **admin@isiswomen.org**

Pacific Island Services, Inc. "The Back Office Solutions Company" is seeking a **RECEPTIONIST / SECRETARY** with 1 to 3 years experience to handle calls and knowledgeable in general office practice. The candidate selected must be dependable, reliable. Must be articulate and present a positive professional image. We are looking for a team player as well as someone who works well on their own and is able to do multi-task. Additional duties may be assigned. **Excellent verbal and communication skills a plus;** knowledge of English usage, spelling, grammar and punctuation. Please send cover letter and resumé either by FAX at (02) 813 2678 or by E-Mail at pisiwork@hotmail.com on or before Wednesday, 23 July 2003. Please specify the Job ID Number. JP–003.

Senior Programmers

A company servicing international offices immediately requires Senior Programmers. He/She will work with the global team in supporting the firm's applications systems as well as developing and maintaining windows and browser based applications.

Job Responsibilities

- Software Development
- Liaise with users on requirements and develop documentation
- Support and Maintenance of Existing applications

Qualifications

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science or related degree
- Not more than 30 years old
- Relevant experience on the following development tools is required: VB6, ASP, VB.NET and ASP.NET
- Object Oriented Programming
- Project Management and/or Business Analytical Skills
- SQL Server 7/2000; Stored Procedures
- Crystal Reports 8/9 and Report Application Server
- Familiar with UML (Unified Modeling Language)
- Enjoy solving problems and working independently as well as in a team
- Ability to work in a "virtual team"
- Good communication skills in both oral and written
- Ability to work to deadlines and work under pressure
- Willing to travel on short notices

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé, 2x2 picture and other credentials to (please indicate current salary):

B&M Support Centre, Inc.
12th Floor Net One Center
26th Street Corner 3rd Avenue, Crescent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila
Email: marybeth.pua@bakernet.com

(Previous applicants need not to apply)

4GL Programmer

A company servicing international offices immediately requires 4GL Programmer. He/She will work with the global team in supporting the firm's applications systems as well as developing and maintaining existing systems.

Qualifications:

- Bachelor of Science in Computer Science or related degree
- Enjoy solving problems and working independently as well as in a team
- Ability to work in a "virtual team"
- Good communication skills in both oral and written
- Ability to work to deadlines and work under pressure
- Willing to travel on short notices

Qualified applicants may submit their resumé, 2x2 picture and other credentials to (please indicate current salary):

B&M Support Centre, Inc.
12th Floor Net One Center
26th Street Corner 3rd Avenue, Crescent Park West
Bonifacio Global City, Taguig, Metro Manila
Email: marybeth.pua@bakernet.com

(Previous applicants need not to apply)

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syngenta

Syngenta, formed by the merger of Novartis Crop Protection AG and Zeneca Agrochemicals, is a world-leading agribusiness company. It employs some 20,000 people in over 90 countries worldwide, and achieved gross sales of US$6.2 million in 2002. The company is committed to sustainable agriculture through innovative crop protection and seeds solutions.

Our vision is to be ***the leader in the business of empowering crop growers.*** Key to the achievement of this vision is our people.

As we become more competitive, the quality of our people is vital to our success. In making this a reality, we are currently seeking for a dynamic, competent, and highly independent individual to join our team as:

CREDIT & COLLECTION OFFICER

Our Credit & Collection Officer is responsible for the efficient credit and collection management through close monitoring and in-depth analysis of trade accounts receivable.

Qualifications:

- Graduate of Accounting or any Business course
- Preferably male, 25 – 35 years old with at least 2 years work experience in credit and collection management
- Equipped with good interpersonal skills, negotiation, and analytical abilities
- Possesses excellent oral and written communication skills
- Proficient in Excel and other Windows-based applications, knowledge in BPCS or SAP is an advantage
- Willing to travel extensively

Competitive compensation and benefits package and career development opportunities await successful candidates.* Interested parties may send their credentials to

THE HUMAN RESOURCE DEPARTMENT
Syngenta Philippines, Inc.
9/F Salcedo Towers, 169 HV Dela Costa St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City
Email: team.hr@syngenta.com

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

AMCAR Automotive Corporation is a franchise dealer of Mitsubishi Motors Phils. Corporation. Located at Greenfield Automall, Sta. Rosa, Laguna, it will market, sell and provide for the after-sales requirements of Mitsubishi vehicles in Laguna's San Pedro - Sta. Cruz corridor.

AMCAR commits to build and maintain customer delight and loyalty by delivering customer value beyond quality.

AMCAR
AUTOMOTIVE CORPORATION
Delivering value beyond quality
Greenfield Automall, Greenfield City Sta. Rosa-Tagaytay Rd., Barangay Don Jose, Sta. Rosa, Laguna

AMCAR Automotive Corp. needs dynamic, goal-driven and self-propelled professionals for positions indicated below.

All candidates MUST meet the following common qualifications:
(1) With excellent interpersonal and customer service skills ; (2) Proficient in both oral and written communication; (3) Computer literate, proficient in MS Office applications; (4) Able to work under pressure & willing to work long hours, Sundays & holidays; (5) Drives with valid driver's license; (6) Resident of Laguna's lakeshore towns from San Pedro to Sta. Cruz

VEHICLE SALES ASSISTANT MANAGER
- Male or female, not more than 35 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year Economics, Marketing or any management course with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- With minimum 2 years work experience in sales or marketing at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented

PARTS & SERVICE ASSISTANT MANAGER
- Male, not more than 35 yrs old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any related engineering field, with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- With minimum 2 years work experience in parts and service operations at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

2 GROUP SALES SUPERVISORS
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university, preferably with background in sales and marketing
- With minimum 2 years work experience in sales or marketing, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented

TECHNICAL SERVICES / WARRANTY ENGINEER
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any related engineering field, with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- With minimum 2 years work experience in service operations at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

2 SERVICE ADVISORS
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any related engineering field, with good scholastic records from a reputable university, preferably with background in sales and marketing
- Preferably with work experience in service operations at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

SYSTEM & IT ADMIN STAFF
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BA/BS Computer Science/Engineering or related degree from a reputable school
- Capable of providing hardware and software support, including maintenance and trouble-shooting, with high degree of technical expertise and timeliness to internal users of computers and related equipment
- With working knowledge in installation, training, support of PC systems including LAN and Internet technology
- With working knowledge in system analysis, design and testing
- With working knowledge in Novell, MS SQL, Visual Basic, Java, HTML (website design and maintenance), Windows, E-mail and data base applications
- Expert in all MS Office applications
- With excellent analytical, problem-solving, interpersonal and customer service skills
- Highly organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Willing to be assigned to any shift
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

ACCOUNTING CLERK AND BOOK KEEPER
- Male or Female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of Accounting
- With minimum 1 year work experience in accounting and book keeping
- Knowledge and experience in Peachtree application will be an advantage
- Highly analytical, organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

INVENTORY & PARTS WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university, preferably with background in inventory planning and analysis
- With minimum 1 year work experience in parts planning, warehousing and inventory control, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Highly analytical, organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

IN-HOUSE SERVICE SUPERVISOR
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any automotive technology course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- With minimum 2 years work experience in service operations at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

FINANCING & INSURANCE COORDINATOR
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university, with background in business or economics
- Preferably with liaison work experience in financing and/or insurance companies
- Organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

MARKETING SERVICES STAFF ASSISTANT
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university, with background in marketing
- Preferably with work experience in marketing in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- Thorough, analytical and hardworking
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

ADMIN. STAFF ASST. 1
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- Preferably with work experience in procurement
- Organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

ADMIN. STAFF ASST. 2
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BS/AB Psychology, Human Resources, Behavioral Sciences with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- Preferably with work experience in human resource transactions
- Organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

8 ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- With minimum 1 year work experience in sales or marketing, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Laguna's San Pedro to Sta. Cruz corridor

PARTS SALES CLERK
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of any automotive technology vocational course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- With minimum 1 year work experience in automotive parts sales or marketing
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

WAREHOUSEMAN
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of any automotive technology vocational course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- With minimum 1 year work experience in automotive parts warehousing
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

6 AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIANS
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of any automotive technology vocational course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- Preferably with work experience in automotive servicing
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

TOOLKEEPER/TIMEKEEPER
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of any automotive technology vocational course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- Preferably with work experience in service shop operations
- Organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

PULL-OUT DRIVER
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- At least high-school graduate
- With at least 3 years driving experience with manual and automatic transmission vehicles
- Capable of doing car maintenance, troubleshooting and minor repairs
- With valid professional driver's license
- Non-smoker
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

Interested parties are requested to submit their application letter, comprehensive resume and digital image of recent 2" X 2" photo via e-mail to:
admin@amcar-automotive.com
E-mail subject should indicate position applied for.

Alternatively, slow mail can be addressed to :

AMCAR Automotive Corporation,
Administrative Services Dept.
Position : ________________
San Pedro Post Office
P.O. Box No.10
San Pedro, Laguna
4023

Bring NBI Clearance, certified true copy of transcript of records and Driver's License when scheduled for personal interview.

A rare opportunity for MARKETING PROFESSIONALS

A company engaged in integrated Financial and Fund Management Services needs talented and motivated **Marketing Professionals** to support the Group's growth and expansion.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Develop and generates clients by offering investment/trust products to high private net worth individuals, corporations and institutional accounts. Plans and develops a marketing strategy to achieve a desired client base and to develop client information system that is effective, proactive and competitive in the marketplace.

Requirements:

1.) graduate of a four (4) year College course from a reputable university with background in marketing or sales.
2.) age 25 to 35 years old with a rank of Junior Officer either from the treasury, trust and customer relationship departments of financial institutions (from a bank, investment house and credit card company)
3.) has developed a client base through aggressive personal marketing and effective adaptation or customization of the basic sales presentation of the company's products.
4.) not afraid of hard work and able to work long hours to develop a client base; proficient in Tagalog, English or Chinese.

** **An exception would be:**
a.) an experienced pension fund/provident fund/cooperative fund managers with administrative skills
b.) a pharmaceutical sales person with extensive client base (especially high net worth doctors).

The company provides competitive compensation commensurate to the knowledge, skills and relevant experienced offered by the candidate. For confidential consideration send resumé to the office address below:

Mail to: P.O Box 13504
Ortigas Center Post Office
1605 Pasig City

E-mail: theadvertiser911@yahoo.com

ASIA *Call Center Link*
(Division of ASIA Partnership Philippines)
www.asiapartners.net/asialink

ASIA *Call Center Link* is the division of **ASIA *Partnership Phils., Inc.* (APPI)** specializing in call center recruitment, staffing and consulting. We count among our clients some of the biggest and newly-established in-house and outsourced call center operators located in Makati, Ortigas, Quezon City and Cebu. Due to our clients' urgent requirements, we are in immediate need of:

OPERATIONS/SHIFT MANAGERS/TEAM LEADERS
- Must have prior experience in supervising 10-15 staff
- Preferably with experience obtained from call centers and other service-oriented industries such as hotels, airlines, etc

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES
- Must possess excellent communication skills
- Willing to work in a shifting schedule
- Positions open to:
  - Fresh Graduates
  - Those with Call Center experience (Inbound and Telemarketing)
  - Those with field sales or any sales-related experience
  - Those with work experience from other industries

INTERESTED CANDIDATES CAN SEND THEIR RESUMES TO:
asialink@asiapartners.net

OR APPLY PERSONALLY AT
Unit 1606, Level 16, Tower One,
Ayala Triangle,
Ayala Ave., Makati City

REDISOL, INC.

THE BRAND LEADER IN INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE CHEMICALS NEEDS

(20) ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
FEMALE, coll. grad. Exp. in sales pref but not required. Pleasing personality, aggressive.

(6) TECHNICAL SERVICE ENGINEERS
Engr grad. Exp in Mechanical Seals, Packings & Gasket Installation/services.

(6) WATER TREATMENT ENGINEERS
Exp. in chem treatment of cooling tower, boilers, condensers & chillers. Chem. Engr - 3 yrs. exp with driver's license.

P30,000.00 or more in cumulative income. Daily allowance, commission, bonus, car plan & other benefits.

Please come in proper attire with resumé & recent 2x2 photo. REDISOL, INC. #49 Kanlaon St.,
Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City.
Trunkline: 742-7208

TRAINING OFFICER

Shall conceptualize, plan, organize & conduct training program of all service personnel; Lead in monitoring, evaluating the outcomes of the program; Maintain close coordination with dining managers & supervisors for areas to be developed & improved; Ensure high quality of service & performance of all service personnel.

The position requires strong leadership & management skills; Previous work experience in a similar position is highly preferred; Bachelor's degree in social sciences or related discipline is required; Minimum of three years training program development experience; Computer literacy a must; M/F 28 to 40 years old.

The Company provides above industry compensation package. Mail comprehensive resumé w/ 1 x 1 picture to:

Wan Chai Corporation
#918 Benavidez St., Binondo, Manila

MITSUBISHI MOTORS

AMCAR Automotive Corporation is a franchise dealer of Mitsubishi Motors Phils. Corporation. Located at Greenfield Automall, Sta. Rosa, Laguna, it will market, sell and provide for the after-sales requirements of Mitsubishi vehicles in Laguna's San Pedro - Sta. Cruz corridor.

AMCAR commits to build and maintain customer delight and loyalty by delivering customer value beyond quality.

AMCAR
AUTOMOTIVE CORPORATION
Delivering value beyond quality
Greenfield Automall, Greenfield City Sta. Rosa-Tagaytay Rd., Barangay Don Jose, Sta. Rosa, Laguna

AMCAR Automotive Corp. needs dynamic, goal-driven and self-propelled professionals for positions indicated below.

All candidates MUST meet the following common qualifications:
(1) With excellent interpersonal and customer service skills ; (2) Proficient in both oral and written communication; (3) Computer literate, proficient in MS Office applications; (4) Able to work under pressure & willing to work long hours, Sundays & holidays; (5) Drives with valid driver's license; (6) Resident of Laguna's lakeshore towns from San Pedro to Sta. Cruz

VEHICLE SALES ASSISTANT MANAGER
- Male or female, not more than 35 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year Economics, Marketing or any management course with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- With minimum 2 years work experience in sales or marketing at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented

PARTS & SERVICE ASSISTANT MANAGER
- Male, not more than 35 yrs old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any related engineering field, with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- With minimum 2 years work experience in parts and service operations at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

2 GROUP SALES SUPERVISORS
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university, preferably with background in sales and marketing
- With minimum 2 years work experience in sales or marketing, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented

TECHNICAL SERVICES / WARRANTY ENGINEER
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any related engineering field, with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- With minimum 2 years work experience in service operations at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

2 SERVICE ADVISORS
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any related engineering field, with good scholastic records from a reputable university, preferably with background in sales and marketing
- Preferably with work experience in service operations at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

SYSTEM & IT ADMIN STAFF
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BA/BS Computer Science/Engineering or related degree from a reputable school
- Capable of providing hardware and software support, including maintenance and trouble-shooting, with high degree of technical expertise and timeliness to internal users of computers and related equipment
- With working knowledge in installation, training, support of PC systems including LAN and internet technology
- With working knowledge in system analysis, design and testing
- With working knowledge in Novell, MS SQL, Visual Basic, Java, HTML (website design and maintenance), Windows, E-mail and data base applications
- Expert in all MS Office applications
- With excellent analytical, problem-solving, interpersonal and customer service skills
- Highly organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Willing to be assigned to any shift
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

ACCOUNTING CLERK AND BOOK KEEPER
- Male or Female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of Accounting
- With minimum 1 year work experience in accounting and book keeping
- Knowledge and experience in Peachtree application will be an advantage
- Highly analytical, organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

INVENTORY & PARTS WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university, preferably with background in inventory planning and analysis
- With minimum 1 year work experience in parts planning, warehousing and inventory control, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Highly analytical, organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

IN-HOUSE SERVICE SUPERVISOR
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or any automotive technology course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- With minimum 2 years work experience in service operations at supervisory level, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- With excellent people management skills
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

FINANCING & INSURANCE COORDINATOR
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university, with background in business or economics
- Preferably with liaison work experience in financing and/or insurance companies
- Organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

MARKETING SERVICES STAFF ASSISTANT
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university, with background in marketing
- Preferably with work experience in marketing in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- Thorough, analytical and hardworking
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

ADMIN. STAFF ASST. 1
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- Preferably with work experience in procurement
- Organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

ADMIN. STAFF ASST. 2
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of BS/AB Psychology, Human Resources, Behavioral Sciences with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- Preferably with work experience in human resource transactions
- Organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

8 ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of a four-year college course with good scholastic records from a reputable university
- With minimum 1 year work experience in sales or marketing, preferably in the automotive industry or similar durable goods industry
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Laguna's San Pedro to Sta. Cruz corridor

PARTS SALES CLERK
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of any automotive technology vocational course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- With minimum 1 year work experience in automotive parts sales or marketing
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

WAREHOUSEMAN
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of any automotive technology vocational course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- With minimum 1 year work experience in automotive parts warehousing
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

6 AUTOMOTIVE TECHNICIANS
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of any automotive technology vocational course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- Preferably with work experience in automotive servicing
- Target-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

TOOLKEEPER/TIMEKEEPER
- Male or female, not more than 30 yrs old
- Graduate of any automotive technology vocational course with good scholastic records from a reputable trade/vocational school
- Preferably with work experience in service shop operations
- Organized, thorough and detail-oriented
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

PULL-OUT DRIVER
- Male, not more than 30 yrs old
- At least high-school graduate
- With at least 3 years driving experience with manual and automatic transmission vehicles
- Capable of doing car maintenance, troubleshooting and minor repairs
- With valid professional driver's license
- Non-smoker
- Resident of Sta. Rosa, Binan, San Pedro or Calamba

Interested parties are requested to submit their application letter, comprehensive resume and digital image of recent 2" X 2" photo via e-mail to:
admin@amcar-automotive.com
E-mail subject should indicate position applied for.

Alternatively, slow mail can be addressed to :

AMCAR Automotive Corporation,
Administrative Services Dept.
Position : ______________
San Pedro Post Office
P.O. Box No.10
San Pedro, Laguna
4023

Bring NBI Clearance, certified true copy of transcript of records and Driver's License when scheduled for personal interview.

A rare opportunity for MARKETING PROFESSIONALS

A company engaged in integrated Financial and Fund Management Services needs talented and motivated **Marketing Professionals** to support the Group's growth and expansion.

Duties and Responsibilities:

Develop and generates clients by offering investment/trust products to high private net worth individuals, corporations and institutional accounts. Plans and develops a marketing strategy to achieve a desired client base and to develop client information system that is effective, proactive and competitive in the marketplace.

Requirements:

1.) graduate of a four (4) year College course from a reputable university with background in marketing or sales.
2.) age 25 to 35 years old with a rank of Junior Officer either from the treasury, trust and customer relationship departments of financial institutions (from a bank, investment house and credit card company)
3.) has developed a client base through aggressive personal marketing and effective adaptation or customization of the basic sales presentation of the company's products.
4.) not afraid of hard work and able to work long hours to develop a client base; proficient in Tagalog, English or Chinese.

**** An exception would be:**
a.) an experienced pension fund/provident fund/cooperative fund managers with administrative skills
b.) a pharmaceutical sales person with extensive client base (especially high net worth doctors).

The company provides competitive compensation commensurate to the knowledge, skills and relevant experienced offered by the candidate. For confidential consideration send resumé to the office address below:

Mail to: P.O Box 13504
Ortigas Center Post Office
1605 Pasig City

E-mail: theadvertiser911@yahoo.com

ASIA *Call Center Link*

(Division of ASIA Partnership Philippines)
www.asiapartners.net/asialink

ASIA *Call Center Link* is the division of **ASIA *Partnership Phils., Inc.* (APPI)** specializing in call center recruitment, staffing and consulting. We count among our clients some of the biggest and newly-established in-house and outsourced call center operators located in Makati, Ortigas, Quezon City and Cebu. Due to our clients' urgent requirements, we are in immediate need of:

OPERATIONS/SHIFT MANAGERS/TEAM LEADERS
- Must have prior experience in supervising 10-15 staff
- Preferably with experience obtained from call centers and other service-oriented industries such as hotels, airlines, etc

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES
- Must possess excellent communication skills
- Willing to work in a shifting schedule
- Positions open to:
  - Fresh Graduates
  - Those with Call Center experience (Inbound and Telemarketing)
  - Those with field sales or any sales-related experience
  - Those with work experience from other industries

INTERESTED CANDIDATES CAN SEND THEIR RESUMES TO:
asialink@asiapartners.net

OR APPLY PERSONALLY AT
Unit 1606, Level 16, Tower One,
Ayala Triangle,
Ayala Ave., Makati City

REDISOL, INC.

THE BRAND LEADER IN INDUSTRIAL MAINTENANCE CHEMICALS NEEDS

(20) ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

FEMALE, coll. grad. Exp. in sales pref but not required Pleasing personality, aggressive.

(6) TECHNICAL SERVICE ENGINEERS

Engr grad. Exp in Mechanical Seals, Packings & Gasket Installation/services

(6) WATER TREATMENT ENGINEERS

Exp. in chem treatment of cooling tower, boilers, condensers & chillers. Chem. Engr - 3 yrs. exp with driver's license.

P30,000.00 or more in cumulative income. Daily allowance, commission, bonus, car plan & other benefits.

Please come in proper attire with resumé & recent 2x2 photo. REDISOL, INC. #49 Kanlaon St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City.
Trunkline: 742-7208

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Shall conceptualize, plan, organize & conduct training program of all service personnel; Lead in monitoring, evaluating the outcomes of the program; Maintain close coordination with dining managers & supervisors for areas to be developed & improved; Ensure high quality of service & performance of all service personnel.

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The Company provides above industry compensation package. Mail comprehensive resumé w/ 1 x 1 picture to:

Wan Chai Corporation
#918 Benavidez St., Binondo, Manila

WG&A

SuperCommerce Inc.

www.wgasupercommerce.com

We are an ISO 9001:2000 Certified Company managing the
Hotel and Restaurant operations of all SuperFerries.
We are in need of highly motivated individuals who will be part of our dynamic team.

Feel free to choose your desired positions:

GUEST SERVICE COORDINATOR (Graphic Artist)

Takes a major role in the preparation stage of implementing Guest Services projects and activities for the vessels. She/he creates and designs materials, and ensures that other necessary resources are ready prior to implementation of projects and activities. Preferably female, graduate of any four years course, with 2 to 3 years experience in graphic design and creative works.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Ensures the consistent quality of products by continuously conducting research through product testing, ingredients and supplies sourcing, and benchmarking. Must be a Food Technology graduate, at least two years experience in food related work as a Food Technologist with working knowledge on bakery product development and willing to travel anywhere in the Philippines.

AUDITOR ON BOARD

The position is responsible for monitoring compliance to product and service standards that are being implemented at the different outlets of the sub-cons and on-board the vessels. Also tasked in accomplishing reports pertaining to the audit findings. Preferably Female, between 21-26 years old, Graduate of BS Accountancy, should be self-motivated, good in oral and written communication.

HOTEL MANAGER ON BOARD

The position is responsible for the day to day hotel operations including supervision of contractor service units on board, requirements and inventory supplies, handling passenger inquiries and complaints. Applicant should not be more than 35 years old, graduate of 4-year course, preferably BS HRM, and with 3 years experience as Hotel Manager

GUEST SERVICE OFFICERS ON BOARD

The position is responsible for the efficient operation of the front office department. Must be thoroughly familiar with the hotel and front office operation. Ensures that events and activities on-board are properly monitored and coordinated, and that guests are well-served and accommodated. Applicant must be a graduate of any 4-year course, with relevant experience in customer service and good in dealing with different people.

VESSEL SUPERVISORS

The position is responsible either in ensuring the over-all productivity and profitability of the ship's F&B operation or providing high standard of cleanliness and courteous service to all guests in the vessel. Applicant should not be more than 35 years old, graduate of any 4-year course, preferably BS HRM or Accountancy, and with 2 years experience in hotel/restaurant operation in a supervisory level.

VESSEL CREWS

(Housekeeping/F&B Attendants/Shop Attendants)

Housekeeping position is responsible for maintaining high standard of cleanliness and courteous service to all guests in the vessel. F&B Attendants are responsible for serving, checking and maintaining orderliness at the food service areas. Shop Attendant is responsible for preparing requisitions of stocks for sale and keeps adequate inventory of merchandise for sale on board. Applicants must be 18 – 29 years old, at least graduate of 2-yr. course and willing to undergo the required training.

VESSEL COOK

Responsible for the preparation of all food served in the vessel. Preferred applicant is male, not more than 35 years old and at least with 1 year experience as a cook.

VESSEL MAINTENANCE

(Carpenter/Painter/Electrician/Leadman)

Responsible for accomplishing job request, providing plumbing, electrical, repairs and maintenance from guest on hotel facilities. And for Working Leadman responsible for over-all repair/maintenance operations of the facilities of the vessel. Preferably male, with related experience on the same field and willing to be assigned in any superferry vessels.

You can process your application through
http:\\www.wgasupercommerce.com
(note: open your email address the following day for our response)
We will not entertain walk-in applicants

We also need:
VESSEL PHYSICIANS
A licensed medicine, willing to travel, preferably with clinical experience.

Applicants for Vessel Physicians may apply personally to:
G/R Harbor Center Bldg.II
23rd St. Cor.Railroad, South Harbor, Port Area Manila
look for Vannie

MARKETING ASSISTANT

- ☐ Female / Male
- ☐ Graduate of 4 year course in commerce
- ☐ 22-30 years old
- ☐ Must have at least 2 years experience
- ☐ Has good communication skills
- ☐ With pleasing personality

ADVANTAGE: work experience in sales / marketing in a plastic firm

SALES ENGINEER TECHNICIAN

- ☐ 25-40 years old
- ☐ Good communication skills
- ☐ Willing to travel
- ☐ At least 5 years experience as a Technician/Engineer in the following plastic manufacturing fields:
  - Film Bag Manufacturing
  - Film/Paper converting
  - Printing Packaging
  - Bottle/Injection
  - Extrusion

COMPUTER ADMINISTRATOR

- ☐ Graduate of 4 years computer course
- ☐ Full knowledge in computer networking
- ☐ Internet base programming
- ☐ Knowledge in trouble shooting

ACCOUNTING CLERK

- ☐ Graduate of BS Accountancy
- ☐ With at least 1 year experience in general & cost accounting
- ☐ Must be computer literate

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- ☐ Single with pleasing personality
- ☐ At least 22-30 years old
- ☐ Excellent in written communication & interpersonal skills
- ☐ An individual that can work with minimum supervision
- ☐ A team – player, aggressive, self motivated and result oriented

PAPER * PLAS * TECH

CRISWILL INTERNATIONAL

#1232 2nd Floor Nissan Bldg.
U.N. Avenue, Paco Manila
Tel. # 400-1065; 526-8189
Fax # 338-2669
E-mail:criswill@info.com.ph

"Only short listed applicant will be contacted"

GRAND JOB FAIR OF

BUENCONSEJO, ILLUSTRADO & ASSOCIATES

URGENTLY NEEDS....

JUNIOR MANAGER
MANAGEMENT TRAINEE
CORPORATE ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

45-GRADUATES OF: PT, OT, RT, BSN & anh MED. courses
* License of Non-License & good pleasing personality
30-GRADUATES OF: IE, ECE, EE, ME, CE & Archi.
* Self-motivated & willing to undergo training
20-GRADUATES OF: BSC, Tourism, Educ., Philo & Psyc
* Managerial skill is an advantage
12- GRADUATES OF: CoE, ComSci & other IT related courses.
* Creative, good analysis & hardworking

** Age 20 to 35 years old, with or w/o experience. Willing to be assign in diff. positions available in the company.
** Hiring starts on July 21-26, 2003 (8:00 AM - 5:00 PM). Accepted applicants from July 21-26, 2003 will start immediately.

OFW & OCW ARE WELCOME TO APPLY

Interested applicants may apply personally with comprehensive resumé, original credential and 2x2 picture at:
#235-C Mercan Bldg., EDSA Ext'n., Pasay City (near Saver's Square & Allied Bank, walking distance from MRT Taft & LRT Edsa station)

Look for MS. ESTRADA

Clip this AD to your RESUMÉ

A major retail player in Pampanga is currently in the process of revitalizing its operations and has openings for the following positions:

MANAGER FOR SUPERMARKET OPERATIONS

Male or Female
Not more than 40 years old
Degree holder and preferably with MBA
At least 5 years managerial experience in supermarket operations
With extensive background in merchandising, inventory management and the use of the POS system

RETAIL OUTLET SUPERVISORS

Male or Female
25-32 years old
Graduate of Business Administration or any related course
At least 3 years supervisory experience in supermarket operations
Computer literate and people oriented

MARKETING OFFICER

Male or Female
22-28 years old
Graduate of Marketing or Communications Arts
At least two years experience in a marketing, advertising or PR agencies
Computer literate, highly creative and can conceptualize outstanding programs for the company

MERCHANDISERS AND BUYERS

Male or Female
23-30 years old
College Graduate
At least five years experience as buyer/merchandiser in a supermarket or department store
Customer driven, has initiative, and a team player

Applicants must be willing to relocate to Angeles or Mabalacat, Pampanga. Mail your comprehensive resumé with 1x1 picture, salary history, and transcript of records to:

InAsia Management+Consultancy
Suite 239 Cityland Pioneer Condominium
Pioneer Street, Mandaluyong City

REQUIRED FOR KUWAIT

OPTOMETRIST

- ➢ Minimum experience 5 years, preferably with previous experience in Hospitals
- ➢ Salary based according to qualification and experience
- ➢ Should be able to join immediately
- ➢ References necessary

Please send your Curriculum Vitaé by email: tcalzate@info.com.ph or by telefax: 740-5796 in Manila.

Attention: MS. TERRIE C. ALZATE

Looking for a Career?

The right people and proven processes supported by the world's leading technologies.

At SYKES, we're proud of the successful careers we've developed. We want to benefit your future with the opportunities we have to offer! Are you dynamic, dependable, and driven by success? Do you enjoy using your creativity to solve problems? Do you like being rewarded for your achievements? If so, consider using your technical and interpersonal skills to work for a dynamic, successful, global company.

TRAVEL COUNSELORS

- Must at least possess a minimum of three years travel/ airline experience
- Proficient in GDS such as Abacus, Galileo, Amadeus and/or other airline systems such as Speedwing, Gabriel and Sonic
- Willing to work in variable work shifts and extended hours
- Good communication skills, both oral and written
- Team player and with good understanding of customer Service
- Qualified candidates must be able to start immediately

As these are **URGENT** requirements, all interested applicants are requested to personally submit their updated CV's from **Monday to Friday, 8:00AM-5:00PM** to our HRD.

SYKES

28F Robinson Summit Bldg.,
6783 Ayala Ave., Makati City 1200
E-mail: hrd@man.ph.sykes.com;Website: http://www.sykes.com

Save the Children Federation, Inc

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries world wide, implementing community development projects that help children in need. Save the Children is searching for qualified candidates for:

TECHNICAL COORDINATOR FOR ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Reporting directly to Metro Manila Program Manager, the Technical Coordinator for Elementary Education will be primarily responsible for overall coordination of the elementary education efforts of Metro Manila Program Office. He/she will provide technical inputs in existing program areas and lead in the implementation of programs/projects under the Education Sub Sector. He/she shall also serve as a liason for Elementary Education initiatives between Save the Children-Metro Manila office and its partner agencies. He/she is also responsible in providing assistance for the development of innovative program/project concepts in pursuit of possible funding opportunities for the program together with Sectoral Program Initiative Team (SPRINT)

Key responsibilities:
The Technical Coordinator for Elementary Education shall (a) conceptualize, plan and implement projects that supports the accomplishment of Elementary Education program objectives of Save the Children - Metro Manila Office; (b) mobilize Metro Manila Program's target communities in support of elementary education related initiatives; (c) lead in monitoring, evaluating and documenting outcomes of program interventions, including their impact on women and children; (d) provide technical inputs for general programming and decision making related to elementary education program; (e) maintain close coordination with Program Coordinators in field operation particularly in ensuring strong community participation and network support for elementary education; (f) serve as technical resource person for capacity and skills training of POs, partner groups and other organizations in advancing quality programming related to Elementary Education (g) prepare and submit project and management operating plans and budgets; (h) prepare and submit promptly monthly status report of program accomplishments.

Requirements:
The position requires strong leadership and management skills; Previous work experience in a similar position in an international NGO highly preferred; Bachelor's degree in Education, Social Work or related social science discipline required; Minimum of five years experience in implementing programs with strong education development component. Demonstrated training and documentation skills. Fluency in English required. Computer literacy a must. Professional experience in an urban program work a plus.

Qualified applicants may send their resumes on or before July 31, 2003 to : *By mail* - CODE: MMP TCEE, Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. *By fax*: (632) 853-02-15. *By e-mail*: dghudier@savechildren.org (please indicate code "MMP TCEE" in subject line).

PRONET SYSTEMS, INC.

ACCOUNT MANAGER(S)

- Male or Female
- Graduate of Marketing, Management or any 4-year business course
- Proven track record of at least 2 years of experience
- Highly motivated with good organizational skills
- Highly assertive, with leadership qualities

SALES ENGINEER(S)

- Male or Female
- Graduate of Marketing, Management or any 4-year business course
- Experience is an advantage but not required

PROJECT ENGINEER(S)

- Male or Female
- Graduate of ECE, EE or IE
- With exposure in design, estimation and project implementation

Please send your resumé and latest 2x2 colored picture to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
4th Flr. LCN Bldg. #24 Kabignayan
cor. Banawe St., Quezon City

A MULTINATIONAL FILIPINO-JAPANESE CONSTRUCTION COMPANY IS URGENTLY IN NEED OF:

MEP MECHANICAL/ELECTRICAL/PLUMBING COORDINATOR
- BS Mechanical or Electrical Engineering graduate with minimum of five (5) years experience in mechanical, electrical, plumbing and auxiliary coordination works

SAFETY ENGINEER
- BS Civil Engineering graduate with minimum of two (2) years experience in handling safety in construction and preferably SOPI Accredited

FIELD ARCHITECTURAL COORDINATOR
- BS Architecture graduate with minimum of five (5) years experience in the architectural coordination and finishing works on site aspect of a vertical construction

UTILITYMAN
- Preferably college level and knows how to operate office equipment particularly photocopying machine

Hand carry your curriculum vitaé with detailed job descriptions, certificates of previous and present employment, school credentials and recent 2x2 colored picture to:

SUMMA KUMAGAI INC.-KUMAGAI GUMI JOINT VENTURE
Meralco Compound, Ortigas Avenue, Pasig City
(beside Meralco Foundation, Inc.)

Build your career with a strong and growing brand.

mister Donut

Mister Donut Philippines is one of the leading brands in its category with shops and products that give an image of freshness and a fun-loving, clean and delightful dining experience. It is one of the fast-growing fastfood chains in the country today, currently with over 1,000 outlets nationwide.

*In support of our expansion program, we are eagerly inviting **result-oriented individuals** to join our team.*

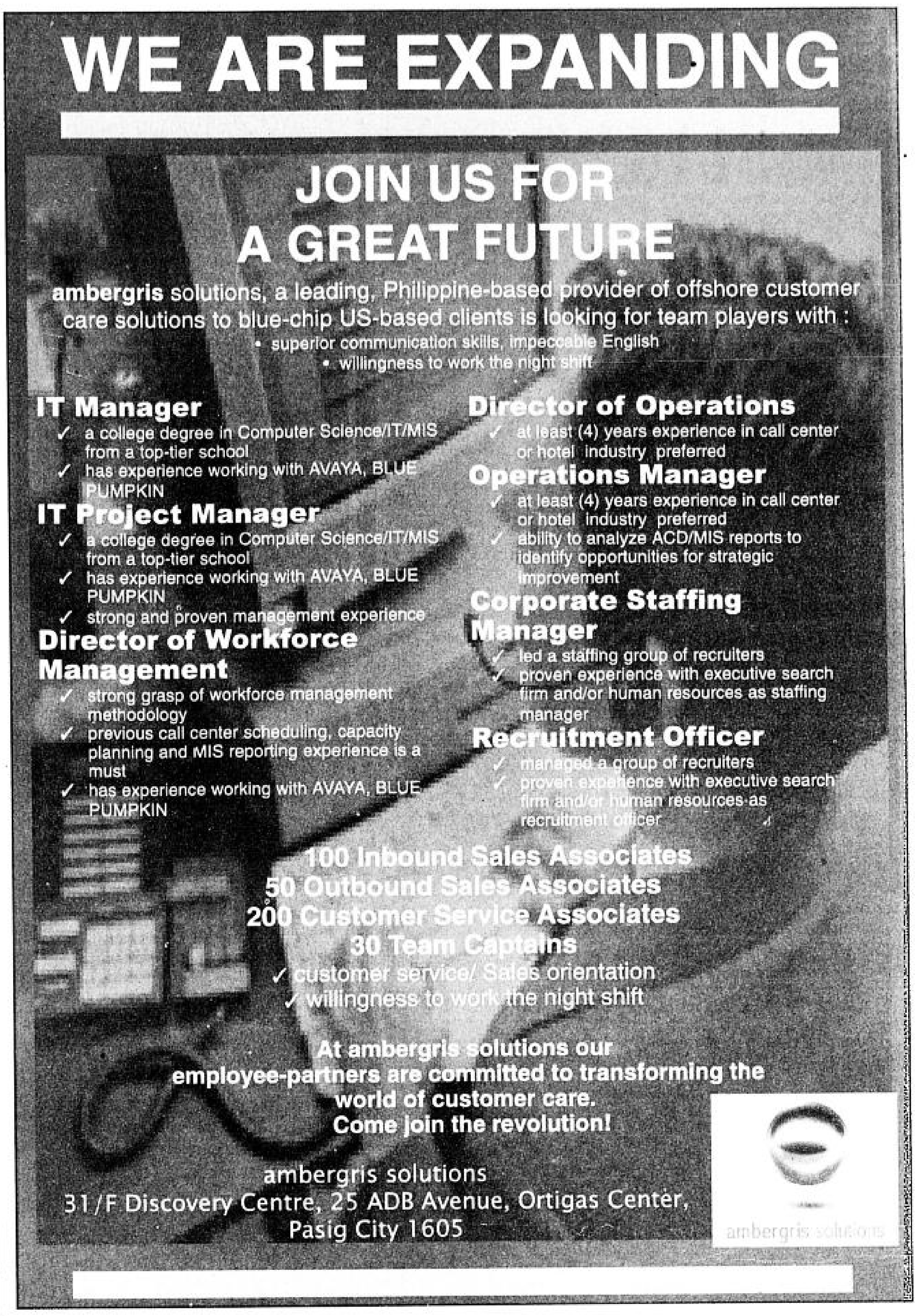
BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & SITE FEASIBILITY OFFICERS **FRANCHISE ACCOUNT OFFICERS**	*Areas of Assignment:* **Bacolod • Bataan • Bicol • Cagayan de Oro • Cavite • Cebu • Davao • Ilocos • Iloilo • Laguna • Lucena • Mindoro • Metro Manila • Nueva Ecija • Pampanga • Pangasinan** Graduate of Management Engineering, Business Management or other related courses with Finance and Marketing subjects • Ability to communicate in the local dialect a plus • Willing to do fieldwork • With valid driver's license • Related work experience an advantage • Preferably Male, 21 to 35 years of age
PRODUCT MANAGERS *(Quezon City)*	Graduate of any four-year course with outstanding scholastic and extracurricular records • With at least one year work experience in marketing/brand management preferably gained from a consumer goods industry • With good presentation and public relations skills • 35 years of age or below
SHOP OPERATIONS TRAINING OFFICERS	*Areas of Assignment:* **Bacolod • Bataan • Bicol • Cagayan de Oro • Cavite • Cebu • Davao • Ilocos • Iloilo • Laguna • Lucena • Mindoro • Metro Manila • Nueva Ecija • Pampanga • Pangasinan** Graduate of any four-year course • Work experience in similar field an advantage • With good presentation and public relations skills • Male or female, 22 to 30 years of age
TRAINING & MODULES DEVELOPMENT MANAGER *(Quezon City)*	Graduate of any four-year course • With at least two years work experience in developing training modules and facilitating training especially on customer service • With good presentation and public relations skills • Male or female, 22 to 30 years of age
R & D / QA SPECIALISTS	Graduate of BS Food Technology • With at least one year work experience in product research and development • With adequate knowledge in microbial testing and analysis
KITCHEN MANAGEMENT TRAINEES	Graduate of a business course, with strong background in Finance and Accounting • With good scholastic records • Related work experience an advantage • Highly analytical, organized, and keen to details • Willing to be assigned in the provinces
SHOP MANAGEMENT TRAINEES	Graduate of a business- or management-related course • Related work experience an advantage • With good working knowledge in Marketing Management, Customer Service and Basic Accounting • With good leadership, management, and coaching skills
PRODUCTIVITY & QUALITY CONTROLLERS	Graduate of any four-year course preferably Food Technology • Adept in quality inspection • Keen to details • 30 years old and below

Applicants for all the job openings must be assertive, have excellent communication skills, be outgoing and comfortable in dealing with other people, proficient in Microsoft Word, Excel, and PowerPoint, and in excellent health.

Send your resume, 2x2 recent ID picture, transcript of records, a brief essay of at least 200 words describing yourself, and an application letter stating the position you are applying for and why we should choose you over other applicants, to:

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGEMENT & DEVELOPMENT
Mister Donut Philippines
Sct. Santiago cor. Marathon Sts., Diliman, Quezon City
E-mail: hrmd.recruitment@qualservcentral.com

A competitive compensation & benefits package awaits successful candidates. Applications with incomplete requirements will not be processed. Previous applicants need not re-apply.



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JOIN US FOR A GREAT FUTURE

ambergris solutions, a leading, Philippine-based provider of offshore customer care solutions to blue-chip US-based clients is looking for team players with :

- superior communication skills, impeccable English
- willingness to work the night shift

IT Manager

- ✓ a college degree in Computer Science/IT/MIS from a top-tier school
- ✓ has experience working with AVAYA, BLUE PUMPKIN

IT Project Manager

- ✓ a college degree in Computer Science/IT/MIS from a top-tier school
- ✓ has experience working with AVAYA, BLUE PUMPKIN
- ✓ strong and proven management experience

Director of Workforce Management

- ✓ strong grasp of workforce management methodology
- ✓ previous call center scheduling, capacity planning and MIS reporting experience is a must
- ✓ has experience working with AVAYA, BLUE PUMPKIN

Director of Operations

- ✓ at least (4) years experience in call center or hotel industry preferred

Operations Manager

- ✓ at least (4) years experience in call center or hotel industry preferred
- ✓ ability to analyze ACD/MIS reports to identify opportunities for strategic improvement

Corporate Staffing Manager

- ✓ led a staffing group of recruiters
- ✓ proven experience with executive search firm and/or human resources as staffing manager

Recruitment Officer

- ✓ managed a group of recruiters
- ✓ proven experience with executive search firm and/or human resources as recruitment officer

100 Inbound Sales Associates
50 Outbound Sales Associates
200 Customer Service Associates
30 Team Captains

- ✓ customer service/ Sales orientation
- ✓ willingness to work the night shift

At ambergris solutions our employee-partners are committed to transforming the world of customer care. Come join the revolution!

ambergris solutions
31/F Discovery Centre, 25 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center,
Pasig City 1605

ambergris solutions

DISCOVER, LEARN, WORK & EARN

BE A PART OF THE **IT INDUSTRY**

ANALYST

Code A01T

Qualifications:

1) Male or female, 21-28 years old.
2) BS Accountancy Graduate
3) Articulate
4) Above average written communication skills.
5) Knowledgeable in MS Excel.

Code A01E

Qualifications:

1) Male or female, 21-28 years old.
2) Work experience in Financial Reporting, Financial Analysis and/or Budgetting.
3) Proficient in MS Excel (Formatting, Formulas and Macros)

SPECIALIST

Code S03T

Qualifications:

1) Male or female, 21-28 years old.
2) Proficient in Visual Basic.
3) Proficient in any of the following databases (Oracle, MS SQL, MS Access, Btrieve or Pervasive SQL).
4) Knowledgeable in MS Excel (Formatting, Formulas and Macros)

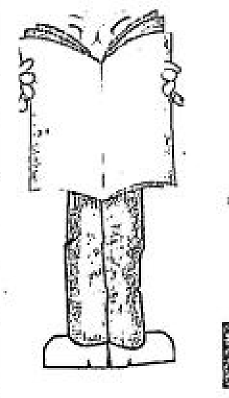
Code S03E

Qualifications:

1) Male or female, 21-28 years old.
2) Proficient in C++
3) Proficient in any of the following databases (Oracle, MS SQL, MS Access, Btrieve or Pervasive SQL).

Ideal candidates should send their CV at:

1906 Prestige Tower, Emerald Avenue, Pasig City
or Email at wat@fpti.com.ph



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A young and dynamic IT Distribution Company in **Makati** is urgently in need of following:

Product Manager(s)

- 22 to 26 years old
- Male or Female candidates of good moral character, energetic, hard-working and has great communication skills in English. (Chinese speaking applicants is preferred but not necessary)
- graduate with a degree in business management, marketing, or any related degree.
- Has the experience and the ability to strategize, conceptualize, plan, develop and execute sales and marketing plan for the product assigned.
- Willing to start immediately.
- FOR NETWORKING PRODUCTS—require technical background on networking products.
- FOR MOBILE PRODUCTS—requires know-how on PDA, PDA-Phone, Notebook products. Contacts with media would be advantage.

Due to the urgency of the position, Interested applicants should send their curriculum vitae or detailed resume to 305-A Don Tim Bldg., 5438 Pres Sen. Osmena Sr Highway (formerly South Super Highway) Bangkal Makati or email them to hason@computerdevicesph.com.

The Presidential Anti-Graft Commission (PAGC)

is in need of

Lawyers and Law Graduates

for the positions of Graft Investigation Officers II - SG 26, Attorney III - SG 21, and Attorney II - SG 18.

Please send resumé, transcript of records with 2x2 pictures at:

PAGC, 2/F State Accounting and
Auditing Center Bldg., U.P. Compound,
Commonwealth Avenue, Diliman,
1101 Quezon City.

DIATECH SUCCESS GROUP, INC.

URGENTLY NEEDS

SALES ENGINEER & SALES CLERK

- Male or female, 22 to 28 years old
- Initiative, willing to be trained
- Willing to work on field
- With or without experience
- Good in conversation

INTERESTED APPLICANTS MAY APPLY AT:
190 General Luis St., Novaliches Q.C.
Tel. Nos.: 417-2194 • 936-5349
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Qinteraction
Quality Interaction

Qinteraction is a professionally managed merchant call center company that services both Philippine and international customers.

We are urgently looking for driven, focused and customer-oriented individuals to fill in employment vacancies in the company.

We are committed to provide successful applicants with the highest level of training, a rewarding compensation scheme and an opportunity to be part of a unique experience in one of the best call centers in the country.

TELEMARKETERS

The **Telemarketer** must have good voice quality, can project effectively and enthusiastically over the telephone and easily connect with his customers. A person who can readily influence others given very short talk-time will be perfect for this position. The applicant must be fluent in conversational American English.

The applicant must be willing to work on shifts. Prior telemarketing or sales experience is not necessary but will be an advantage.

TEAM LEADERS

The **Team Leader's** primary goal is to effectively lead the team towards the achievement of productivity, customer service and quality objectives. The work involves overseeing call handling, call accuracy and effective closing of transactions.

The applicant must have at least one year related work experience from a call center environment, with strong leadership qualities, effective motivational and people-handling skills and must be willing to work on shifts.

CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVES (CSRs)

The **Customer Service Representative** is responsible for providing a variety of call center services to inbound and outbound customers. The ideal applicant must be fluent in conversational American English. We are also looking for CSRs who can either:

- Speak fluent Spanish
- Speak with a British accent

These are urgent requirements. Please e-mail, hand-carry or send applications to:

QINTERACTION PHILIPPINES, INC.
Human Resources
8th Floor, BPI Buendia Center
Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue
Makati City, Philippines 1200
E-mail Address: HR@Qinteraction.com

All applications will be treated in strict confidence.

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

A Korean IT company is in need of

CAD OPERATOR

- **Male or female, graduate of Architecture or any related course**
- **Must be experienced in CAD operating**
- **Must be fluent in English**
- **Must be 32 years old or below**

Please send your detailed resumé including photograph, via e-mail to sevaskim@naver.com; reddeviL1972@hotmail.com or send to Unit 1703 Antel 2000 Bldg., 121 Valero St., Salcedo Village, Makati City on or before July 27, 2003.

We'll only respond to qualified candidates.

YONHI-IT CORP.

SEMINAR WORKSHOP FOR ASPIRING FLIGHT ATTENDANTS

Date: August 2-4, 2003
Time: 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Venue: Intercontinental Hotel Manila

Registration going on
"FIRST COME, FIRST SERVE" basis.

WINGS

will carry you to new heights and excellence in on-board service.

For inquiries, come and visit us at
ONE CORPORATE PLAZA Unit 204,
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Fax.No.: 3027003
Look for: Mr. Russell or Ms. Jane

Soar on the WINGS of your goal!

A US based technology company developing, manufacturing, marketing and selling industry standard defining high-end solid state storage solutions is currently in the process of setting up its Philippine office to support its world wide R&D, manufacturing and marketing and sales operations.

SALES PERSONNEL

- ○ Graduate of BS ECE, CE, CS or its equivalent, MBA and/or MSEE a plus
- ○ At least 5 years of relevant experience in IT Hardware and/or STORAGE industry field
- ○ Self-motivated, driven and resourceful with the ability to work independently
- ○ Project Management and Business Analysis skills/experience
- ○ Excellent formal presentation skills
- ○ Excellent organizational and problem-solving skills
- ○ Strong negotiating skills with excellent oral and written communicating skills
- ○ Proven track record in successfully closing and managing large accounts
- ○ Willing to travel abroad.

JUNIOR SALES PERSONNEL

- ○ Graduate of BS ECE, CE, CS or related discipline
- ○ At least 2-5 years relevant technical sales experience
- ○ Experience in IT Hardware and/or storage industry field
- ○ Excellent organizational and problem-solving skills
- ○ Strong negotiating skills
- ○ Excellent Oral and written communication skills

HARDWARE ENGINEERS

- ○ BS in EE, ECE, CoE, CS or related discipline
- ○ Experience in ASIC, Firmware, Board Layout, FPGA.
- ○ Knowledge in Digital Design (chip, board and system level).
- ○ Experience in Storage Systems preferred.
- ○ Familiarity with SCSSI, IDE and Fibre Channel protocols an advantage.
- ○ Solid verbal and written communications skills

SOFTWARE ENGINEERS

- ○ BS in CS, BS CoE, ECE or related discipline
- ○ High comfort level with C, C+, C++, JAVA Windows, Unix.
- ○ Experience in Storage Systems preferred.
- ○ Solid verbal and written communications skills
- ○ Familiarity with SCSSI, IDE and Fibre Channel protocols an advantage.
- ○ Excellent documentation and organizational skills

CUSTOMER/TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS

- ○ BS in CoE, CS EE, ECE, or related discipline
- ○ 5 years or more experience in I.T. hardware and/or storage industry field
- ○ Knowledge of ATA, SCSI, Fibre Channel, Serial ATA, PCI, PCI-X protocols
- ○ C language coding experience to debug firmware related issues.
- ○ Proficiency in JTAG emulators (Diab, Greenhills, etc.)
- ○ CAD tools (AutoCAD, ProE, SolidWorks, etc.)
- ○ Solid TECH background. Solid verbal and written. communications skill

Opportunity for possible overseas training.
Very competitive compensation commensurate to experience and qualifications.
Attractive commission structure for sales opportunities to huge growth markets.

We regret that only shortlisted candidates will be notified.

Please send resume to techjobs@mgbsi.com
and/or send to 1523 Herrera Tower, 98 Herrera St.,
Salcedo Village, Makati City

OFFICE STAFF

Processing, Documentation, & Accounting

1.Female/ Mktng/ Business Mgt/ Comp Sci Psych / Acctg GRAD.
2. Female/ Any course with good computer knowledge/ Grad Good English
CALL 729 2797 / 729 2802
TEXT 0917 843 5335
Contact MS. ROSE

Nippon Life Insurance Company of the Philippines, Inc.

The largest and leading **LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY IN THE WORLD** urgently needs an

ACCOUNT OFFICER

(Supervisory Level)

who meets the following qualifications:

- ☐ College Graduate with a degree in Marketing, Business Administration or any equivalent (4)-year course.
- ☐ Between 25-35 years old
- ☐ Preferably with Group Insurance experience, both in sales and administration.
- ☐ Must be customer service-oriented and with excellent inter-personal skills.
- ☐ Good in oral and written communication.
- ☐ Minimum 1-year driving experience.
- ☐ Proficient in Windows/MS Office.

We offer an attractive salary and competitive benefit package to the selected candidate. Interested applicants may submit, fax or e-mail their resume with a recent 2x2 colored picture not later than July 25, 2003 at:

NIPPON LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY
OF THE PHILIPPINES, INC.

21 F Tower 2 RCBC Plaza 6819 ayala Avenue cor. Gil Puyat Avenue
Makati City Fax No. 753-2161

E-mail: p.regio@nipponlife-phil.com.ph

S_E_A_M_E_O
SEARCA

REGIONAL CENTER FOR GRADUATE STUDY AND RESEARCH IN AGRICULTURE

INFORMATION SYSTEMS STAFF

Duties and responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- System analysis, design and development; Network administration, maintenance and management; Maintenance of applications systems using various information and communications technologies (ICT), including Web technologies; Intranet design and development; Provide assistance to the immediate supervisor on IT management, policies and procedures; IT support services.

Selection Criteria:

- M.S. degree in Computer Science or related fields;
- In-depth technical and working background in network operation (server administration, firewall, proxy server, etc.);
- Knowledge and solid experience in:
  - systems study, analysis, design, development, integration, testing and implementation of software application.
  - administration and management of local area network running in a multi platform environment (Linux, Windows 2000 server, and Novell), including problem tracking, reporting, and monitoring systems
  - programming using PHP, C, C++, CGI, PERL and Java
  - design, development, implementation, and maintenance of Intranet support facilities running under Linux and Windows 2000 server
- Strong technical background in client server application using Lotus Notes and SQL.
- Extensively worked on database design, database migration and tuning, installation and configuration of databases, problem resolution and database security (MS SQL, MS Access, Lotus Notes and Visual Foxpro)
- Thorough knowledge of desktop operating systems, applications and hardware, including devices that are attached to the PC

Please send your application letter and comprehensive resume with details of work experience, academic records, recent photo, and references (at least three with full contact details) not later than **31 July 2003** to: Head, Human Resource Management Unit, SEAMEO SEARCA, College, Los Baños, Laguna 4031; email: lth@agri.searca.org; fax: (63-49) 536-7097, 536-2914; URL: http://www.searca.org

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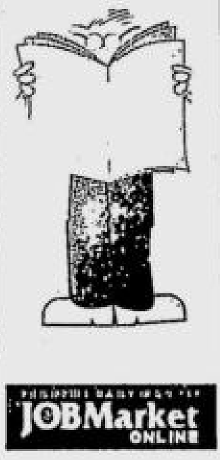
The best companies need the best people.



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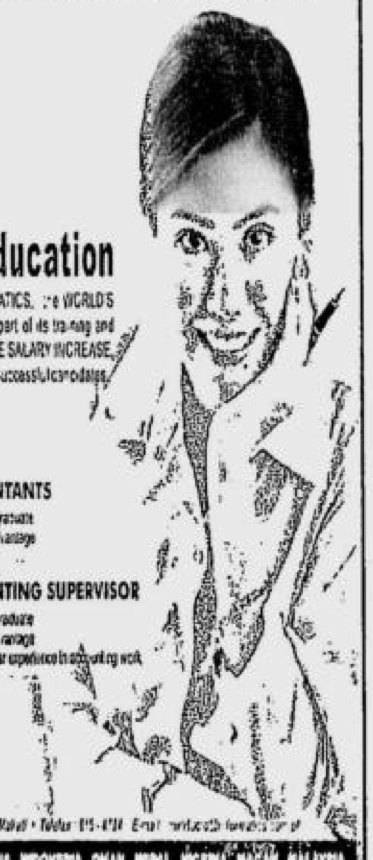

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We are an I.T. company composed of young I.T. professionals who are success-driven and result-oriented. INFORMATICS, the WORLD'S LARGEST NETWORK OF COMPUTER TRAINING INSTITUTE, invites aggressive and self-driven individuals to be part of its training and education centers in the Philippines and in the Asia Pacific region. COMPETITIVE BENEFITS PACKAGE, PROGRESSIVE SALARY INCREASE, EXTENSIVE TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES, FAST PROMOTION and POSSIBLE INTERNATIONAL ASSIGNMENT await successful candidates.

DEAN for Informatics Colleges

- *35 to 45 years old
- *Master's degree required, preferably in IT, with PhD units
- *With proven record of service, at least 5 years, as Department Head or Faculty Administrator of a college
- *With full-time classroom teaching experience
- *With strong management and leadership skills
- *With effective interpersonal and communication skills

BUSINESS UNIT HEAD (Computer Assisted Learning)

- *35 to 45 years old
- *Master's degree in Education required
- *Administrative and business management experience in a school setting an advantage
- *With knowledge of current trends in IT
- *With effective interpersonal and communication skills

INTERNAL AUDITOR

- *CPA
- *At least 1 year experience in audit work

FRANCHISE MANAGERS/ SALES EXECUTIVES

- *Bachelor's Degree Holder
- *Master's degree is an advantage
- *Competitive with ability, drive and desire to deliver outstanding results from both a revenue and profitability perspective
- *Intellectually creative
- *With a proven ability to motivate and develop a cohesive team-oriented sales and marketing group
- *Very strong management and leadership skills
- *Result-oriented
- *With strong interpersonal skills
- *With strong business sense and maturity; entrepreneurial, and maximizes the use of necessary limited resources by utilizing creativity, ingenuity and hands-on implementation
- *With effective communication skills, both oral and written
- *Customer-focused
- *With an up-to-date knowledge of current trends and emerging marketing initiatives

ACCOUNTANTS

- *Accounting graduate
- *CPA is an advantage

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

- *Accounting graduate
- *CPA is an advantage
- *At least 1 year experience in accounting work

Send your resume together with 2 x 2 picture and Transcript of Records to 2/F Security Land Bldg. 6797 Herrera cor. Ayala Ave. Makati • Telefax 815-4734 E-mail [illegible]

PHILIPPINES SINGAPORE BAHRAIN BANGLADESH BRAZIL BRUNEI CAMBODIA CHINA HONGKONG INDIA INDONESIA OMAN NEPAL NIGERIA MACAU MALAYSIA MAURITIUS MYANMAR PAKISTAN ROMANIA SAUDI ARABIA SRI LANKA SOUTH AFRICA SOUTH KOREA SWEDEN TAIWAN THAILAND UNITED KINGDOM VIETNAM ZIMBABWE

Our company is one of the top Exporters/Manufacturers of Christmas decorations and novelties.
We have an immediate opening for an ....

Artist/Designer

- ➢ **Male or female**
- ➢ **Graduate of fine arts, architecture or any related course**
- ➢ **Hard worker and results oriented**
- ➢ **Salary open**

Send resumé to:

#1 Cheza cor Gertrudes Sts., Mambugan, Antipolo City
Philippines 1870 or E-mail to: stem22@skyinet.net

ADD FORCE: YOUR CAREER. YOUR INDUSTRY. LEAD BOTH. YOUR MOVE...

Our client is a leading provider of offshore customer care solutions to US-based Fortune 500 companies in the utilities, IT, travel & hospitality, telecommunications, and financial services industries.

☐ MAJOR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN THE FASTEST GROWING CUSTOMER CARE SOLUTIONS COMPANY
☐ HIGHER THAN INDUSTRY SALARY & BENEFITS PACKAGE
☐ A VIBRANT CORPORATE CULTURE

CORPORATE STAFFING MANAGER (P50-65K)

- 5-7 years experience as a staffing manager
- Preferably with actual experience in call center recruitment
- Preferably proficient in Human Resource Management

CLIENT SERVICES MANAGER (P50-65K)

- At least 2 years working experience in the related field
- Proven and demonstrable experience in project management, preferably with a multinational/well-respected local corporation
- Must be willing to work on a flexible work schedule

HR GENERALIST (P25K)

- Well-versed in various HR functions, specifically Compensation & benefits, employee relations, Organizational Development & Training, and Recruitment & Selection
- At least 2-5 years experience in Human Resource Management
- Experience in a call center an advantage

RECRUITMENT OFFICER (P18-20K)

- At least three years experience in recruitment and target selection
- Knowledgeable in the administration of on-line psychological and aptitude exams
- Must have the ability to create & apply different sourcing strategies
- Has been exposed to a massive call center agent recruitment campaign

ORGANIZATIONAL DEV'T. MANAGER (P50-65K)

- 3-5 years experience in staff management
- Preferably with experience in Customer Service Management
- Proven Organizational Development and Labor Relations, Compensation & Benefits Skills
- Must be able to develop and deliver training modules in a call center environment

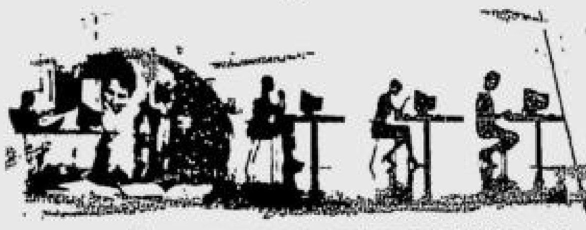
I.T. PROJECT MANAGER (P50-65K)

- 1-2 years experience in the related field
- Preferably with actual call center experience
- Advanced proficiency in IT/Computer management and MS Applications

TEAM CAPTAINS (P25K)

- At least 1 year working experience in Customer Service
- Strong leadership and supervisory skills

All applicants must have excellent English Communication Skills and be willing to work in the Ortigas Area



PLEASE E-MAIL YOUR RESUME TO:
CYRUS B. ADRE
CADRE@ADD.COM.PH
FAX NO.: 817-6773

Unqualified candidates will not be responded to

DIRECTOR OF WORKFORCE MANAGEMENT

As the Director of Workforce Management, you will be responsible for the accuracy and quality of schedules generated for each program, the accuracy and timely delivery of all internal and external MIS reporting, and the achievement of service levels in all inbound accounts. You will also be tasked to create forecasts for call volumes and handle times based on historical ACD Data.

You must be proficient in scheduling, capacity planning, MIS functions, and intraday call center management, and have experience working with BLUE PUMPKIN and AVAYA. You must also be willing to work on a flexible work schedule.

If you have NOT experienced working in a call center, you need not apply.

DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS

The Director of Operations will be responsible for overall inbound sales and operations. You will also be tasked to manage a group of supervisors/team leaders to ensure that established procedures are followed, and ensure that training needs are being met.

You must be knowledgeable in all functions and tasks in the areas of Customer Relations, with at least 4 years working experience in the related field. Familiarity with the tourism, hospitality, or Customer Service Management industries, is preferable.

ADD FORCE
www.add.com.ph

LOTUS SUBSCRIPTIONS

YOUR PARTNER IN MANAGING ASIAN OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE 21ST CENTURY

International Call Center
is in need of

TELE-QUALIFIERS!

No Graveyard Shifts
Very Competitive Salary

A young and dynamic company is on the lookout for people who have the drive to excel. We are building a team who will support our client's sales force.

We require the following qualifications from all applicants:

- At least college level
- Excellent command of the English language
- Mandarin speaking is an advantage
- Computer literate (Microsoft applications)
- Pleasing personality
- Has an appealing phone voice
- Self-motivated and goal oriented
- Preferably female

We guarantee the following:

- Normal working hours. NO GRAVEYARD SHIFTS!
- A lucrative basic salary plus incentives
- Training program included (paid)
- Advancement potential

Please bring resumé with recent ID picture to:
#4 Sgt. Esguerra Avenue, Quezon City
(Near GMA Kamuning MRT Station)
Email: personnel@lotus-worldwide.com

Bravo! ristorante italiano pizzeria bar-caffe

is now hiring for their retail outlets selling Bravo sauces & food items in San Fernando & Angeles City, Pampanga

Sales Associates

proficient in English & Tagalog
aged 18-30 w/ a passion for selling, students and part-timers welcome!

Basic Salary plus Commission

await qualified applicants
Please apply w/ biodata & ID photo at:
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Telebastagan, San Fernando Pampanga
Look for Carmela Rañosa or Concon Ascaño
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(2 days interview only)

CORPORATE HOLDINGS GROUP OF COMPANIES

A holding company for investment banking, real estate, finance and pharmaceutical outfits invites highly qualified career individuals to be part of its continuous expansion. If you are aggressive, ambitious, hardworking, strongly motivated and with good inter-personal skills, then you are the person we want to fill up the following positions:

PROJECT BOOKKEEPER

Male or female, with a bachelor's degree in Accounting from a reputable university, CPA is an advantage, proficient in MS Office applications; must be knowledgeable in the various phases in preparing, analyzing and reconciling the books of accounts, preferably with experience in the real estate industry, and willing to be assigned in Laguna.

PROGRAMMER

Male or female, with a bachelor's degree in any computer course, able to program in Visual Basic, Access, and other programming languages, and has knowledge in trouble-shooting.

WE OFFER A HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE COMPENSATION PACKAGE, INCENTIVES AND BONUSES COMMENSURATE TO PERFORMANCE.

Due to the urgency of the above requirements, letters of application and comprehensive resumé with recent photo should be received not later than July 28, 2003 at the address listed below. Please indicate the position you are applying for at the lower left-hand corner of your envelope. *Previous applicants need not apply.*

Corporate Holdings Group of Companies
Suite 5C Unioil Building
Commerce Avenue cor. Acacia Ext.
Madrigal Business Park
Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City

AMONG EVERYONE WHO'S PROMISED
☐ A. GIVE YOU ACCESS TO THE COUNTRY'S LEADING
☐ B. GIVE YOUR APPLICATION THE ATTENTION IT NEEDS
☐ C. HAVE THE TOOLS TO KNOW WHAT'S RIGHT FOR

☑ **ADD FORCE IS THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN TRULY DELIVER.**

We are currently looking for individuals to fill the following positions:

☐ Customer Relations Agents
☐ E-mail Support Representatives
☐ Technical Support Representatives
☐ Customer Contact Associates

If You are:

☑ Able to effectively express yourself in English
☑ A graduate of any 4 year course (undergraduates in their 2nd Year will also be considered)
☑ Knowledgeable in Computer Applications/Hardware

ADD FORCE: WORKING FOR YOU.

Then **APPLY NOW** and take advantage of the opportunity to work in today's most *progressive, rewarding, and globally interactive* industry!

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www.add.com.ph

3rd Floor Pilar Building, 148 Amorsolo St.
Legaspi Village, Makati City
Tel. No.: 813-3000
Fax no.: 894-1357

IMMEDIATE HIRING

4 AIR-CON TECHNICIAN

- Male between 21-28 years old
- At least 1-2 years Technical Grad. Course
- Experience in Descaling of Chillers, Shell and Tube Condenser and PACU

OJTs/SERVICE TECH. HELPERS

- Male not more than 28 years old
- Willing to undergo training
- With allowance

Interested applicants may apply personally with their Resumé, 2x2 picture, NBI, and any certificate to:

AGUALUBE CHEMICAL TRADING AND GEN. MDSE.
180 Millenium Park Place Mindanao Ave. cor Road 20
Project 8, Quezon City; Tel. No. 453-1285; 453-1112 Look for Jojo

---

The Aristocrat Restaurant

In its pursuit to continuously provide high quality food and excellent service, accepts highly effective individuals with expertise in the following positions:

OPERATIONS MANAGER
RESTAURANT/STORE MANAGER
ASST. RESTAURANT/STORE MANAGER
FOOD & BEVERAGE SUPERVISOR
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How do you respond when asked, 'What are your weaknesses?'

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR WW: I always thought that in job interviews you should answer the question, "What are your weaknesses?" with things that are really your strengths. But a friend says you should tell a real weakness to prove your credibility.

To Tell Or Not To Tell?

The city of Peoria, Illinois recently put in some speed bumps. Fourteen citizens showed their displeasure by honking their car horns long and loud every time they ran over them. The police didn't take too kindly to that, though. The fourteen protesters were fined $75 apiece for "tooting their own horns."

Well, many job interviewers are no different from those police: they look askance when interviewees toot their own horns too loudly. Your friend is right: talk about real weaknesses, but do it in a way that doesn't jeopardize your desirability.

"Interviewing" by Arlene Hirsch (Wiley, 1997) has some great tips for how to do that, along with other useful information about how to survive the interview process. (My favorite interview question cited in her book is "if you were stranded on a desert island with one other person, who would you want it to be?" What was the job? Cast member for "Gilligan's Island"?)

Refer to a corrected weakness. You might say, for example, "I didn't know much about accounting so I took a course in it." This will show them that you're eager to learn and grow.

Cite a lesson learned. "In my last job I didn't warn a customer that our company's shipments were running late. I learned the importance of keeping customers informed." The key is to show that you won't make this mistake again when you're on the interviewer's payroll.

Cite a lapsed skill. "Since moving into a management position my clerical skills have gotten really rusty." As Arlene suggests, this both answers the question and suggests it wouldn't be wise to push you back down the corporate ladder!

Cite an unrelated skill. "My computer programming skills need work" or "My French is now limited to merci and bonjour." This works, of course, unless you're applying for a computer gig at Euro Disney.

Cite a learning objective. "Since I'm an engineer I don't know much about sales, so I've started to go on occasional sales calls." Be careful not to describe a weakness that would limit your ability to do the job you're interviewing for. Turn your weakness into strength. This is the strategy most commonly cited, but it's also the most likely to make you appear phony and self-serving. (Do you really think they'll fall for "I work too hard?") Use it as a last resort and test your answer on several people before the interview to be sure it's believable.

Only time will tell if lawyers for the Peoria Fourteen will be able to prove a First Amendment protection for blowhards. But I know of no such protections during job interviews. So toot with caution.

Here are the results of the recent workingwounded.com poll: How do you respond to the "what is your weakness" question in an interview?

—Weaknesses, I don't have any, six percent

—Disguise a strength as a weakness, 38 percent

—Tell them a real weakness, 56 percent

Our winning weakness strategy comes from Ron in Tacoma, WA. "I was recently asked this question and I told the committee that I'd agonized over it. Then, I told them I'd asked my daughter what I should say. She replied, 'chocolate milk shakes.' In this case, it really eased the tension and they all laughed. I then picked some lame weakness, which wasn't even heard by the committee. They were still trying to recover from the "chocolate milk shake" answer. I then used it again both times with excellent results."

(Mr. Rosner is the author of "The Boss's Survival Guide," McGraw Hill 2001, and "Working Wounded," Warner 2000, a speaker and founder of the award-winning Working Wounded.com & RetentionEvangelist.com. He is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. Email him at bob@workingwounded.com.*)*

Gossip...

(From page K18)

government rates when you join government. In some instances, these rates are lower compared to the private sector. I would view working in the government sector more as a vocation rather than simply a means of livelihood. There is something noble about working with government because of its public service orientation. But I congratulate you for making full use of your talents on the three jobs. As a taxpayer, I am pleased that a government employee works as well as you do. If you feel, however, you are close to a "burnout" because of the three jobs, have the courage to speak to your boss and solve the situation with him.

Gossip

Then, on the malicious gossip, examine you behavior and analyze what led people to get back at you in this manner. Sometimes, when people come from the private sector to join government, they may lack the organizational sensitivity to be one with their new environment. They may be perceived as being cocky and arrogant. This may not be the case with you. Think of other behaviors that may have led them to perceive you in this manner. Remember, we are responsible for the perceptions that other people hold of us.

On your desire to explore training and consultancy as a next career, I invite you to send your resume to our company. From there we will assess your competencies and values and determine if an alignment with our organizational requirements and core values exists. Meantime, take care and God bless you!

(Ms Puangco is CEO and chair of Ancilla Enterprise Development Consulting. Send comments, feedback or requests for advice through e-mail to advice@ancillaedc.com.ph *or fax to 892-2902.)*

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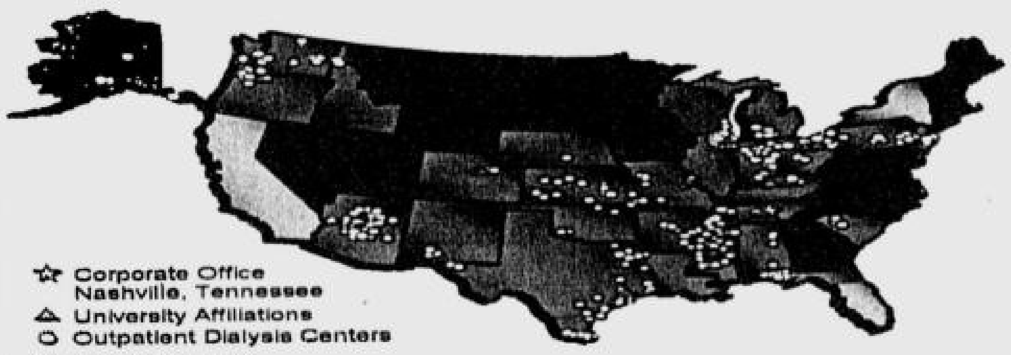

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Teens and job fairs

By Terrie Bittner

AN ATTRACTIVE, professionally dressed woman entered a job fair with her two sons. They were teenagers and were dressed in very baggy pants and tee shirts with loud pictures on them. The mother stepped confidently up to the first booth and said, "My sons need jobs." The boys stood back, chomping gum and looking bored. The interviewers were polite but discouraging.

Any teenager old enough to have a job should also be old enough to get his own. Most job fairs have many minimum wage jobs that are ideal for teenagers, but teenagers have to know how to get the job themselves.

Business attire

First, the boys were not dressed appropriately for the occasion. The fact that the mother was professionally dressed meant nothing. The mother was not the person looking for a job. The boys, while dressed fashionably, were not trying to impress other teenagers. They needed to be dressed in a manner that would impress the adult interviewers. Many of the adults at the job fair were also dressed very casually, despite instructions from the fair sponsors to dress professionally. Those who wore suits, had neatly trimmed hair and who looked ready to step into management got more attention and respect than did those who were dressed casually.

Maturity

Even if the teen is only applying for a casual job, he should be dressed professionally. He should remember that the interviewers know only what they see. If a teen is dressed correctly, it will be assumed that he will also be dressed appropriately when he comes to work. A teen in a suit, or at least a dress shirt and dress pants, will not only look mature and responsible, he may go into the interviewer's mind as someone who will be promotable in the future.

The second mistake was that these boys should have talked to the interviewers without help from their mommy. If you bring your teens to a job fair, stay away from them while you are there. Teach them how to present themselves to the reviewer. They should walk up to the reviewer—no gum please—introduce themselves and explain what sort of work they are looking for. They should come prepared to get a job.

Have your teen prepare a resume. Even though the jobs he is qualified for will require an application, the teen can attach the resume to the application with a paperclip. (He should bring his own paperclips.) Resumes, clips and pens should all be in an attractive binder, one that is plain colored without pictures. A zippered notebook or pouch is acceptable. The resume should include any previous work experience, volunteer work, outside activities—anything that shows he is responsible and hard working. He should have with him all information needed to fill out the application. I once saw a teen have to run to find her mother to get her social security number. The annoyed look on the interviewer's face told me the girl would not get the job. Employers want people who are organized and professional.

Be prepared

Teach your teen to be prepared to answer questions. Although a fair is noisy and busy, he should never appear distracted. Instruct him to look directly at the interviewer and to pay close attention. Even if the most beautiful girl in the world walks by, he must not turn to watch her. He should answer politely and without slang. Remind him to smile. Lean forward and seem interested. Sound excited when he talks about what he has done and why he wants the job.

Have him prepared to explain why he wants the job. He should not focus on what he plans to do with the money, however. Instead, he should explain what he hopes to learn from the job and what he hopes to be able to give to the company and its customers.

Adult behavior

Your teen should give the interviewer as much time as requested, but should be prepared to move on when it is clear the interview is over. He should shake hands with the interviewer, thank him and tell him he is very excited about the company and that he looks forward to hearing from them.

Remind your teen that the interviewers might be watching as the teen moves around the room. He should use an adult walk, not a cool teen walk. He should be alert, polite and interested with each person. If he bumps into someone, he should apologize. Tell your teen to watch for opportunities to look like a good person—pick up an item someone else dropped, help someone with an application and so on. He does not know who might be watching. Someone is always watching.

(Reprinted with permission from www.suite101.com*)*

Learn how to recognize motivation myths

By Jason Gracia

THERE are many reasons people use for not being motivated to reach for more. They'll use these reasons again and again, and stick with them forever. There isn't much that will make them let go of their strongly held beliefs about success in life and why they can't achieve it.

These reasons are merely myths and should be avoided. Below are five of the most common myths about motivation and success.

1. It isn't meant for me. Many people think that happiness and success are things that other people can enjoy, but not themselves. This simply isn't true. Each person, whether they are happy or unhappy, has the same amount of time during the day. They can only do one thing at a time. It is what they do with that time that makes the difference. You can do anything you want, if you use your time wisely. With persistence and desire, you can accomplish anything.

2. It isn't possible. This statement has been used many times throughout history. Going to the moon isn't possible. Breaking the four-minute mile isn't possible. It doesn't matter what the subject is, someone has said it can't be done. After thousands have proven the naysayers wrong, don't you think you can do it, too? You can. People have won against the odds before and they'll do it again.

3. It's too hard. When you first think of getting to work on a goal or project, it can be a little overwhelming. It can seem too large for one person to handle. After you learn more about it, your goal becomes more manageable. You may see a huge shadow of a scary monster, but you will soon find that it is only a small kitten casting that large shadow.

4. It will take too long. When you think of the end product, the main goal, it can seem like it will take a very long time. There is a secret to making this easier. Break the goal down. When you have a main goal, break it down into smaller goals. That way you'll find success much faster and more frequently. This will accomplish two things; you will be motivated to keep going and you will reach small successes along the way.

5. I'm not smart enough. This is one of the deadliest myths. A lack of confidence can put a quick and untimely end to thousands of dreams, wishes and goals. It will take time, patience, and hard work but you will learn. If you are dedicated to succeeding, you'll put in the time, and you'll have the knowledge and confidence to carry through until the end.

Now you know the myths and the truths. No more excuses, only successes. Set your goals, get moving, and smile on your continuing success!

(Want to get motivated? Get your free motivation123 idea-kit, filled with tips and ideas to help you get and stay motivated, reach your goals, and improve your attitude at the Motivation123 Web site. Reprinted with permission from http://www.motivation123.com.)

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  Responsible for developing new accounts, handling of continuous marketing of Treasury & Private Banking services to achieve respective revenue / volume objectives and grow client contact base.
- **Account Officers*** for Corporate Banking
  Responsible for managing small and medium-sized enterprises to achieve pre-determined loan portfolio, and for managing the credit relationship to achieve portfolio quality and profit objectives.
- **Department Head** for Internal Audit
  Responsible for the planning, organizing, directing, coordinating and controlling of all audit activities covering Branches and Head Office units in accordance with established systems and procedures, internal control policies, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and other government regulations.

BRANCHES :

- **Business Managers (Branch Managers)***
  Responsible for the management of the Branch's profitability, sales and service, budgets, personnel and work flow requirements aimed at developing quality and lasting business activities which meet goals and institutional profit objectives.
- **Associate Business Managers for Marketing (Branch Marketing Officers)***
  Responsible for developing and adapting the Branch's marketing strategies to broaden its sales potential, maximize profitability, service efficiency, and operations excellence in coordination with the Branch Manager.
- **Associate Business Managers for Service (Branch Operations Officers)**
  Responsible for ensuring that the overall operations of the branch is conducted in accordance with established systems and procedures, internal control policies, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and other government regulations.

STAFF REQUIREMENTS

HEAD OFFICE :

- **Marketing Assistants***
  Actively participate in the marketing activities of the unit towards the attainment of its targets in coordination with the Account / Marketing Officer.
- **Secretaries**
  Responsible for performing secretarial functions to achieve the group's established targets and objectives.
- **Systems Analysts** for Systems and Procedures
  Responsible for the documentation of manual systems and procedures. Preferably an Industrial Engineering graduate
- **Audit Examiners**
  Responsible for assisting in the examination and evaluation of the Bank's internal control system and the quality of performance in carrying out assigned responsibilities. Preferably an Accounting graduate and a CPA
- **Operations Staff for:**
  Credit Card Unit
  Disbursement Services Unit
  General Services
  ATM Monitoring Unit

BRANCHES :

- **Business Marketing Assistants (Branch Marketing Assistants)***
  Actively participates in the marketing activities of the Branch towards the attainment of the Branch targets in coordination with the Branch Manager and the Branch Marketing Officer
- **Client Relations Assistants (Tellers, New Accounts Clerks, General Accounts Bookkeepers, Operations Assistants)***
  Responsible for effectively servicing account openings, for the accurate and efficient handling of receipts and disbursement of funds (deposit & withdrawals) and other miscellaneous transactions, and creating a positive image for the Bank.

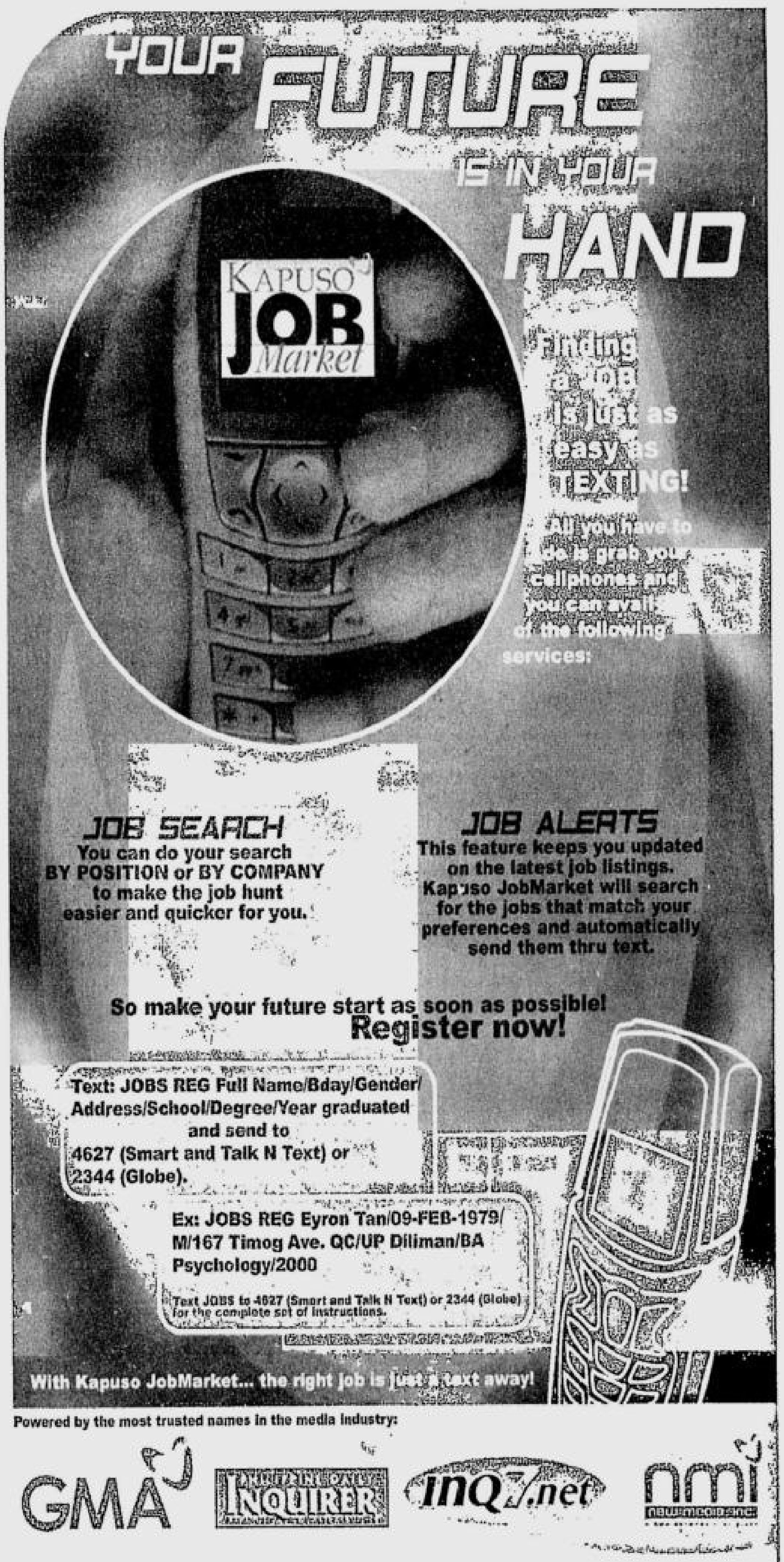
All applicants should have above average scholastic records, good communication skills and pleasing personality. For officer positions, at least two (2) years relevant experience is required. Ability to speak in Chinese & having a ready network that may be tapped as client base for *marketing positions is an advantage.

Interested parties may send their **letter of application together with a comprehensive resumé with 2x2 picture and transcript of records to:**

HRMDG – Recruitment & Placement Section
14/F, Philippine First Building
6764 Ayala Avenue, Makati City

Your ***letter of application*** *may also be sent to:* raaumentado@bankcom.com.ph
For more information about us, you may visit our website: www.bankcom.com.ph

We will respond only to those who are qualified



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Ex: JOBS REG Eyron Tan/09-FEB-1979/M/167 Timog Ave. QC/UP Diliman/BA Psychology/2000

Text JOBS to 4627 (Smart and Talk N Text) or 2344 (Globe) for the complete set of instructions.

With Kapuso JobMarket... the right job is just a text away!

Powered by the most trusted names in the media industry:

Accruent Inc. is a leading provider of contract management solutions for Fortune 1000 companies. Our solution enables companies to create a single view of all the contractual commitments that exist throughout their organizations.

The Company is looking for an

Office Manager

for its representative office in Makati, which is composed of 11 full time employees plus contractors.

JOB SUMMARY:

A leadership position with primary responsibility of conducting quality control to ensure successful delivery of abstraction projects to Accruent's Fortune 1000 customer base. Responsibilities include the development of processes that ensure projects run in an efficient manner. The Office Manager oversees all aspects of the abstraction lifecycle across multiple projects using various Accruent software platforms and data centers. In addition, the office manager is responsible for liaising with and coordinating projects between Accruent Sta. Monica, Project Leads and the data centers. He/she will report to the Manager of the Contract Services Department.

The successful candidate will be a process oriented person with previous management experience and a background in contract abstraction and/or contract management. Strong customer service, employee relations, project and time management, verbal and written English communication and team building skills are all essential and required.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS:

- BS / BA degree in Commerce and/or a Computer Science related field. Masters of Business Administration a plus.
- Minimum of three (3) years' experience in contract and/or lease abstraction, contract administration & management or data entry control.
- Minimum of three (3) years' experience in managing an organization with more than ten (10) employees.

Please send your resume to Unit 601 Liberty Center, 104 H.V. Dela Costa St., Salcedo Village, Makati City or send through e-mail to: Careers@Accruent.com.

HIRING

A leading national drug manufacturer invites capable, no-nonsense individuals to be part of its team of marketing professionals as:

Professional Service Representatives

Qualifications:

- Male or Female, 21-28 years old
- Bachelors degree holder; fresh graduates may apply, though experience in a similar field will be a plus
- Proficient in Filipino and English, oral and written
- Personable with conviction and determination to succeed in pharmaceutical marketing

Quality compensation package, PSR Training and a rewarding careeer in pharmaceutical marketing await those who'd fit in our team. PSRs to be based in Metro Manila.

This is an urgent requirement. Interested applicants may apply personally at:

AD-Drugstel Pharma Lab. Inc.
75 Tandang Sora Avenue, Quezon City
Tels. 920-7366; 453-7596 to 97

MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES
DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

MSF - Switzerland
(Street Children Project)
1519 F. Benitez St.,
Paco, City of Manila 1007
Tel. (+ 632) 404 20 84
Fax (+ 632) 526 42 38
msfch-sc@compass.com.ph

MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES (MSF) a non-profit, non-governmental international humanitarian organization, accredited by the Department of Health whose objective is to bring medical aid to population in crisis, is now in need of staff for the Street Children Project in Manila:

(1) PROJECT COORDINATOR ASSISTANT

Qualifications:

- Must be a Social Worker with strong coordination experience, team management
- Experience in social work within Metro Manila
- Good communications and interpersonal relation skills
- Experience in project design, proposal writing and program activities implementation
- Fluent in English & Tagalog
- Experience in NGO settings an advantage

All application letter, comprehensive resumé with recent 2x2 photo, copy of diploma and transcript of records must be mailed, hand-carried or e-mailed to:

MS. MILENA OSORIO
Project Coordinator
Street Children Project
1519 F. Benitez St., Paco, Manila 107
Telefax 526-4238
Email: msfch-sc@compass.com.ph

(Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.)

PEARL S. BUCK FOUNDATION PHILIPPINES, INC.

is in need of

Executive Director

Job Summary:
Recruit and develop local Board of Directors and coordinate implementation of all fundraising activities for PSB Philippines (PSBP). Represent PSBP to official government authorities, international and national social development groups. Supervise program development operations and implementation for PSBP. Oversee all financial functions of PSBP and supervise donor/ sponsor support functions of PSBP. Provide supervision of personnel management, human resource development and administrative support functions of PSBP..

This is a managerial/ supervisory position.

QUALIFICATIONS:

- 4 year Degree Course holder
- Has developed and administered operating plans and budget
- Has directed the accounting, administrative and personnel department of an organization
- At least 5 years experience in social development in a managerial position
- Has excellent fund raising skills

Please submit your resume through mail at 28A Eugenio Lopez Street South Triangle, Quezon City. You may also fax it at 9255960 or email at pearlsbuck@skyinet.net on or before July 25, 2003.
(Only shortlisted applicants will be notified.)

MEDECINS SANS FRONTIERES
DOCTORS WITHOUT BORDERS

Medicins Sans Frontieres is an independent humanitarian medical organization committed to two objectives providing medical aid wherever needed, regardless of race, politics or gender and raising awareness of the plight of the people it helps. MSF was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1999. The Swiss section has been carrying out projects in the Philippines since 1997, and is currently in need of Medical Doctor for the position of:

MEDICAL COORDINATOR
(Short term)

Qualifications:

- Must be a licensed physician in the Philippines.
- Strong background and professional experience in public health, research and/or Epidemiology.
- Ability to work effectively in a multicultural work environment. Professional experience with international humanitarian aid organizations favorable.
- Experience in precarious and/or emergency situation an advantage.
- Highly-flexible, creative and team player.
- Proficient in MS applications is essential; working of EpiInfo Software is a plus.
- Fluent to written and oral English and Tagalog.

All application letters, comprehensive resumés with recent 2x2 photo, copy of diploma and transcript of records must be mailed and addressed to:

Mr. Thomas White
Head of Mission
Medecins Sans Frontieres – Switzerland
508 Camia St., Palm Village, Estrella, Makati City
or Email it to msfch-ph@compass.com

We will not entertain walk-in applicants. Only short listed candidates will be notified.

Leap Ahead.

Join the Leaders.

If You...

- Have been an **Active Telesales** Consultant for more than one fiscal year
- Have an established client base of managers, professionals, and entrepreneurs
- Have an existing and measurable portfolio of successful projects
- Are a Visionary in the **Finance Industry**
- Would like to build your own company and develop to become a **Business Partner** of the **Bank of Choice**

Then...

- ✓ Prepare your credentials (Resume, Accounts Portfolio, etc.*) and send to the mailing address below.

Mailing Address:
Makati City P.O. Box 2118 **Attention: PLD-TSC**
*(Documents must be received on or before **July 31, 2003**)*

Make It Happen.

GODIVA, INC.

needs the following

FACIAL CARE SERVICES STAFF

- Female, graduate of any medical related course
- Fair complexion & with pleasing personality
- At least 2 yrs. experience in a reputable school

BRAND & MARKETING ASSTS.

- Male/Female, graduate of Bus. Admin. or related course
- Proficient in oral and written communication
- Experience in customer service, special events mgnt. or advertising and promotions will be an advantage

QUALITY CONTROL ASSISTANT

- Licensed pharmacist
- At least 2 years experience in quality control
- Can work with minimum supervision
- Willing to work in FTI, Taguig

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- Male/Female
- BSBA Accounting major
- Above average academics

Please send your resumé with 2x2 picture to:
M.C.P.O. Box 3051, Makati City

WANTED

5 ACCOUNTING STAFF

- Knowledgeable in computer software and accounting applications.
- High aptitude and keen interest in information technology.

2 AUDITORS

- Preferably with experience.
- Accounting graduate.
- Able to work with minimum supervision.
- Proficient in word and excel.

The requirement is urgent, hence, starting July 21, 2003, interested parties may bring their resumé at Unit 2106, 88 Corporate Center, Valero corner Sedeño Streets, Salcedo Village, Makati City. Tel. No. 830-2033.

The keys to success is within your reach!
WE NEED YOU. YES, YOU!

A fast growing management and consultancy firm is in need of the following:

SALES ASSOCIATE

Female; Graduate of Marketing or any related business course, must have at least (2) yrs. work experience in real estate selling, property consultancy and management

TELEMARKETERS

Male/Female; Graduate of any four year business course, must have experience in customer service telemarketing/selling. Not more than 35 years old, excellent communication skills

FOOD SERVICE SPECIALIST (Fulltime/Part-timers)

Male/Female; Graduate of HRM or any food service course. Must have experience in food demo preparation, creative, and can handle client service and presentation requirements

FOOD SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Male; Not more than (35) yrs. old, Graduate of HRM or any business-related courses, Must have handled marketing, promotion, and selling of food products

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

Female; BS Accountancy Graduate from reputable University, preferably CPA, not more than 35 yrs. old, with at least 2 yrs. work experience in supervisory capacity, knowledgeable in general accounting works and government reportorial requirements

PROMO-MERCHANDISING PERSONNEL

Female; not more than 25 years old, can communicate well with different levels of people and must have pleasing personality

WE OFFER COMPETITIVE COMPENSATION PACKAGE AND CARRER-ENHANCEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Interested parties may submit resumé bio-data plus 2x2 photo at:

ATTENTION: Ms. GEENEE MERCADO
VENTURESLINK INTERNATIONAL, INC.
Unit A2 Penthouse Padilla Bldg., Emerald Avenue
Ortigas Center, Pasig City

WANTED

CIVIL ENGINEER

MINIMUM OF 10 YRS. WORKING EXP.
Bring Resumé & Transcript of Records to:
DNA ENGINEERING & CONSTRUCTION
998 Josefina III St., Sampaloc, Manila
Tel. Nos. 712-6360/740-8030

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SMART, QUICK-WITTED TRAVEL WARRIORS, JOIN US!

- We're a global travel management company.
- Certification to ISO 9001:2000
- Our distinct corporate direction is oriented towards Innovation and Vision.

TRAVEL CONSULTANTS

- With experience in IATA/Non-IATA agency required
- Progressive mind-set
- Excellent communication skills
- Performance level at par with Quality Management Standards

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

- Must have had previous experience as secretary
- Performs toward thorough, accurate and high level of communication, quality standards
- Familiarity with travel business an advantage
- Good in administrative skills

EXCELLENT BENEFITS
Exposure to global company operations • Management development and training opportunities • Industry-standard compensation • Profit/ Incentive-sharing • Rice subsidy • Hospitalization plan • Travel benefits

Send resume to:

PHILSCAN TRAVEL & TOURS, INC.
A Radius℠ Company
ISO 9001: 2000 Certificate # CI/3171
P.O. Box 1781
Makati City

Since 1986, the company has been providing the public wityh quality services in the line of food, Entertainment and General Merchandise.

Citimart Group of Companies
(Shopping Mall Operators)
Needs the following:

OPERATIONS MANAGER (Code: OM)

- 3-5 years experiencein supermarket operations
- Good oral and written communication skills; computer literate
- Hardworking, decisive, strong organizational and interpersonal skills
- Willing to be assigned in Batangas City
- Salary is negotiable; depends on the qualifications and experience

SECURITY OFFICER (Code: SO)

- 3-5 years experience in the field of expertise
- Preferably with criminal law background
- Good oral and written communication skills; computer literate
- Resourceful, proactive, decisive, analytical, tough and dependable
- Good interpersonal and organizational skills

SELLING AREA SUPERVISOR (Code: SAS)

- at least 3 years experience in a retail setting
- Good oral and written communication skills; computer literate
- Good interpersonal and organizational skills
- Must be aggressive, goal-oriented, dependable and hardworking

Send your resumé to:

Code: _____
HRD Manager
Citimart Group of Companies
4th Flr. Zenaida Bldg., P. Burgos St.,
cor. Evangelista St. Batangas City

JOB OPENING
for
TEACHERS/GUIDANCE COUNSELOR

1. B.S. Elementary Education(major in Home Economics)
2. AB/BSE/BSEED major in Arts
3. MA Guidance/Counseling graduate
4. Volleyball Coach

Applicants must be of good Christian Moral Character.

Send complete resumé and Transcript of Records to:

Jubilee Christian Academy
Doña Hemady Ave. cor. 4th St.
New Manila, Quezon City

SC
Seventeen Young. Co.

The Total Fashion Specialty Store
is in need of

FASHION DESIGNER

for Ready to Wear "Ladies & Men's"

- Male or female; Graduate of Fine Arts or Fashion Designing
- Knowledgeable in Fabrics and Color Combinations/Fabric Consumptions
- Good in sketching; must be able to illustrate her ideas on paper and knows how to execute her designs
- With at least 3 years experience in the same field
- Please bring folio during the interview

Qualified applicants may send/e-mail their resumé with 2x2 photo & TOR or apply personally at:

CINDERELLA MARKETING CORPORATION
#825 EDSA, Quezon City
E-mail: cndrela_hrd@yahoo.com

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Supplier-Distributor of quality building materials needs qualified applicants for the following position:

ACCOUNTANT

- Male/Female
- 25 to 35 years old
- BS Accountancy or the like
- Computer literate
- Proficient in both written and Oral communication
- At least 3 years experience in Accountancy
- Dedicated and Hardworking

APPLICANTS MUST SEND THEIR RESUMÉS WITH TRANSCRIPT OF RECORD AND PICTURE TO:

TASCO Building Supplies Inc.
No. 1866 Ortigas Avenue Extension, Rosario, Pasig City
Phone Nos. 642-4663; 642-4168

ISO-certified Multi-national Company engage in manufacturing various housing fixtures, committed to quality service and customer satisfaction. Awarded as Top Sectoral Export Performance Citation for Furniture Category are in need of the following personnel:

Assistant Supervisors
(for production and maintenance)
- Male / Female at least 21-30 years old
- Graduate of BS Customs or any Engineering course
- With at least 6 months of supervisory work experience.
- Aggressive, analytical and assertive
- Knowledge in machine operation for wooden product

Company Nurse
- Graduate of BS Nursing
- Female between 21-27 years old
- Experience in Industrial setting is an advantage
- People oriented and can work on extended hours

Sanitary Engineer
- Single Male or Female at least 21-30 years old
- Must be Safety/Officer/Sanitary Engineer
- DOLE accreditation
- Must have at least 2 years in supervisory experience
- Must have a Nutrition-related experience
- Must provide a program for Occupational Health and Safety in complying with DOLE-BWC Standards

Office Staff
- Male/Female between 21-27 years old
- Graduate of Computer Science, Chemistry or Economics
- With pleasing personality
- Aggressive, analytical and assertive
- With 6 months experience in office work, people oriented
- Can work on extended hours
- Must be computer proficient

Programmer and MIS Technical Staff
- Graduate of BS Computer Science, or Computer Engineering
- Male/Female between 21 – 30 years old
- Client Oriented
- Knowledgeable in ORACLE, SQL, VISUAL BASIC AND NETWORKING Win NT/98, TCP/IP, PBX,
- PC troubleshooting (Hardware and Software)
- With six months experience in the following:
- -Server / LAN Admin
- -Telephone Technician
- -Data Communication

Truck Head Driver
(urgent hiring)
- Male at least 30 up to 40 yrs. of age
- High school or Vocational Course (related in auto mechanic)
- Experience in Driving Truck Head
- Skills in Heavy Equipment Mechanic
- With Professional Driver's License (R Code- 6& 3,2,1,)

Forklift Operator
(urgent hiring)
- At least High school Vocational College Level
- Male be 20-35 years old
- With 6 months experience in forklift operation
- With Professional Driver's License
- Good moral character

Maintenance Staff
(urgent hiring)
- Male between 20-35 yrs. old
- Vocational or College Graduate
- With 1 year experience as air-con ref technician or mechanical
- Can read electrical diagram symbol
- Must be familiar in manufacturing machine trouble
- Knowledge in compressor repair
- Knowledge in AVR control

Production Operator
(urgent hiring)
- High school ,Vocational or College Level
- Male 18-27 years old (5'2") in height
- Well built and able body
- Good moral character
- Preferably residing within Cavite Area

SCAD Services (S) Pte., Ltd.
PHILIPPINE ECONOMIC ZONE AUTHORITY
BLOCK 23 PHASE 1V ROSARIO,CAVITE

You can mail or hand carry your comprehensive resumé with 2 X 2 picture and transcript of records at the above address.

For inquiries, call telephone no. (046) 437 – 2486 or 437 – 0849. Look for Christian or you can e-mail your resumé at hrd_scad@pacific.net.ph

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Save the Children Federation, Inc

Save the Children Federation, Inc. is a US-based non-profit organization working in over forty countries world wide, implementing community development projects that help children in need. Save the Children is searching for qualified candidates for:

PROGRAM TEAM LEADER

Reporting directly to Metro Manila Program Manager, the Program Team Leader is responsible for overall coordination and integration of area level operations in meeting performance targets as specified in annual program operational plan. He/She will supervise Metro Manila Program Coordinators and shall ensure the quality and efficient delivery of programs/projects in support of PhFO's Country Results Framework. This will include developing mechanisms for sustaining these initiatives. He/she shall also be responsible for all vital documentations that will improve stakeholders understanding and appreciation of Metro Manila Urban Program.

Key responsibilities:
The Program Team Leader shall (a) supervise Program Coordinators in setting clear targets and in overseeing their day to day work (b) maintain close working relationships with technical coordinators and ensure teamwork and support in delivering sub sector initiatives; (c) recommend and direct training for continuing education/ skills enhancement of Program Coordinators in upholding high quality and professional Save the Children staff ; (d) assist the Program Manager in institutionalizing and maintaining an effective and efficient Monitoring and Evaluation System (e) document key program experiences as well as produce periodic accomplishment reports such as quarterly, midyear and annual reports.

Requirements:
The position requires strong leadership and management skills; Previous work experience in a similar position in an international NGO highly preferred; Bachelor's degree in Social Work or related social science discipline required; Minimum of five years program development experience. Demonstrated training and documentation skills. Fluency in English required. Computer literacy a must. Professional experience in an urban program work a plus.

Qualified applicants may send their resumes on or before July 31, 2003 to : *By mail* - CODE: MMP PTL, Save the Children Federation, Inc., No.1 Encarnacion Street corner Lapu-Lapu Avenue, Magallanes Village, Makati City, Metro Manila. *By fax*: (632) 853-02-15. *By e-mail*: dghudier@savechildren.org (please indicate code "MMP PTL" in subject line).

SCOPRO SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.

SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC., manufacturer / exporter of sport optics is in need of:

P.E.D. (Process Engineering) Staff

Qualifications:
- Male, Single, not over 28 years old
- Mechanical Engineering graduate
- Has knowledge in AUTO CAD
- Willing to undergo training

Apply personally and submit comprehensive resumé with recent ID Picture at:

HUMAN RESOURCES SECTION
SCOPRO OPTICAL CO., INC.
Boncraft Building, Mayon corner Pinatubo Streets
Mandaluyong City Tel #533-8171

The country's foremost name in township development invites top-caliber professionals to join its team as...

Empire East

Manager

LEGAL AND CORPORATE AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT

- Lawyer
- Aged 30 and below
- Must have experience in litigation practice in a law firm
- With above-average written and oral communication skills, organized and able to work well under pressure

A competitive compensation package awaits the successful candidate. Those interested may send an application letter enclosing a detailed resumé, transcript of records, recent 2 x 2 photo and work samples, if any, to:

Human Resources Department
Empire East Land Holdings, Inc.
24/F The World Centre, 330 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City

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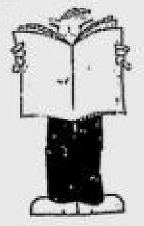
Get your career off the ground.



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LOR CALMA DESIGN ASSOCIATES, INC.
ARCHITECTS INTERIOR DESIGNERS FURNISHERS
invites competent professionals for this position

SPECIFICATIONS WRITER

The Job
Handles preparation of architectural specifications and bid documents.

The Requirements
- Licensed Architect
- Graduate from a reputable university
- Must have at least five years work experience as specifications writer and in construction
- Articulate, hardworking, honest, highly-motivated, results-oriented
- Organized, has keen eye on details and works well under pressure.

Send your comprehensive resumé and recent photograph to **Lor Calma Design Associates, Inc.**, G/F State Condominium 1 Bldg., 186 Salcedo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City or email at admin@lorcalma.com. **We will respond only to qualified applicants.**

Know Your PROFITABLE CUSTOMERS and Make Them Your LIFETIME CUSTOMERS.

Realize the Power of Direct Marketing: *Targeted Marketing, Measurable Results, Historical and Predictive Customer Information, Long-Term Relationship*

Take advantage of this opportunity to learn from the local and regional experts in the different fields of direct marketing. Discover the techniques on how you can maximize this new way of building your relationship with your consumers or customers. Rise above the clutter of mass media and know your consumers by name to give you the power of a one-on-one marketing.

STRATEGIC DIRECT MARKETING: ONE-ON-ONE OPPORTUNITIES WITH CONSUMERS
July 22, 23 & 25, 2003, 1:00 - 6:00 P.M. (Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday)
ACCEED-AIM Conference Center, Makati City

SEMINAR PROGRAM

Day 1, July 22 (Tuesday)

1:00 to 1:30 p.m. **INTRODUCTION: Role of Direct Marketing In The Overall Marketing Plan** (Impact Of Direct Marketing In Today's Market, Role Of Direct Marketing In the Marketing Plan , Different Direct Marketing Strategies)

Speaker: Yayu Javier, Country Manager, MotivationAsia Philippines, Inc.

Session 1: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. **DATABASE MARKETING: Treasure Hunting** (Database Set-Up & Warehouse, Mining & Profiling, Identifying Opportunities)

Speaker: Aditya Vir, Operations Manager, S&G Consulting, Inc.

Session 2: 3:45 to 5:30 p.m. **DIRECT MARKETING COMMUNICATIONS: Sales Returns From Direct Communications** (Direct Mail Planning, Effective Creativity For Direct Mails, Non-Traditional Mediums, Data and Investment Analysis)

Speaker: Paul Gotham, Managing Director, Regional Director S.E. Asia, Rapp Collins

5:45 to 6:00 p.m. **BRIEFING ON THE FINAL PROJECT**

Day 2, July 23 (Wednesday)

1:00 to 1:30 p.m. **LINK UP SESSION**
Session 3: 1:30 to 3:30 p.m **E-MARKETING: Using Technology To Strengthen Customer Relationships** (Web & E-Commerce' Competitive Edge In Marketing, Data Monitoring & Control, Marketing Effectivity)

Speaker : Martha Maranan, Marketing Manager for Servers, IBM Philippines

Session 4: 3:45 to 5:30 p.m. **IN-STORE MARKETING: The Last Push** (Merchandising and Sales Promotions, Data Collection, Feedback Analysis)

Speakers: Jayvee dela Fuente, General Manager, Act Media & Paul Fernandez, General Manager, Demo Power
5:30 to 6:30 p.m. **BRAINSTORMING**

Day 3, July 25 (Friday)

1:00 to 1:30 p.m. **LINK UP SESSION**

Session 5: 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. **VOC: Making It Work Both Ways** (Customer Information & Profiling, Telemarketing, Data Analysis)

Speaker: George Yang, Chief Executive Officer, SM I-Service

Session 6: 2:30 to 3:30 p.m. **LOYALTY & INCENTIVE MARKETING: Customer Value With Measurable Results** (Loyalty Marketing - Where it works best, Incentive Marketing - Performance Measurement & Rewards, Communications Strategy, Monitoring & Tracking, ROIs)

Speakers: Richard Eldridge, Chief Operations Officer , MotivationAsia Regional Offices & Odette Salazar, Group Director, MotivationAsia Philippines, Inc.

Session 6: 3:45 to 5:30 p.m. **PRESENTATION OF CASES/ SUMMATION**

For Inquiries, please call the PMA Secretariat
c/o Ms. Lydia Mariñas at 893-7127, 813-0466, 892-3144 or
fax us at 892-3161, 893-8099 or
email us at pma@philonline.com, ydiamm@edsamall.com.ph

Course Fee:
Early Bird Rate (up to July 12, 2003 only)
PMA Member - P4,700/ Non-PMA Member - P5,500
Regular Rate (from July 14, 2003 onwards)
PMA Member - P5,500/ Non-PMA Member - P6,000

Marketing Institute of the Philippines

PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION, INC.

PHILIPPINE MARKETING ASSOCIATION, INC.

Mini Job Fair AT GLORIETTA

Responding to the need to revitalize the marketing sector by creating **New Markets, New Rules, New Strategies** and take advantage of the various opportunities within reach, the **Philippine Marketing Association** will officially celebrate **JULY** to be this year's National Marketing Month.

The **Philippine Marketing Association (PMA)**, with the special participation of **Inquirer's JOB MARKET**, will hold a Trade Exhibit and a **Mini Job Fair** slated on **July 21 to 26, 2003** at the Glorietta Activity Center.

Bring your resumés intended for any of the following companies:

EXHIBITORS

July 21 to 23, 2003	July 24 to 26, 2003	July 21 to 26, 2003
Abenson Walter Mart	El Real Manpower	Aboitiz Transport Grp.
Ambergris Solutions	Metro Gaisano	Philam Group of Cos.
Chowing Food Corp.	SPI Technologies	SM Department Store
eTelecare	WINGS	
SCAD Services Pte., Ltd.		

PARTICIPANTS (Pigeonhole)

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Informatics
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JAK Milestone Food
Jesse Marinas
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Lotus Subscriptions
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Medecins Sans Frontieres
Meir Lefkowitz - White
MOF Co. (Subic) Inc.
Nippon Life Insurance
Pacific Island Services
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Philippine-RN Recruitment
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PLDT
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SKI-KG Joint Venture
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Stem Exports
Sykes Asia, Inc.
Syngenta Philippines
Tarik Al-Nakib
TASCO Building Supplies
The Merry Cooks (Bravo!)
The Presidential Anti-
United Overseas Bank
Ventureslink Int'l. Inc.
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Wan Chai Tea House
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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
JOB Market

JOBMarket
e-mail: peopleatwork@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

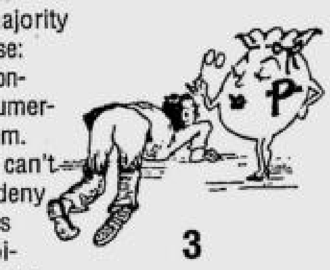
Way to happiness

BEST
Attitudes

PEOPLE like to be happy. All throughout the year we always find occasions to be happy. Did you ever really hear our greetings? Happy New Year, Happy Three Kings, Happy Chinese New Year, Happy Valentine, Happy Easter, Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary, etc. We send off people with "Happy Trip!" and welcome them with "Happy Landing!" and we even go "*hapi-hapi*" during "Happy hour." It seems we want to make life one long happy celebration.

1 Notice the telenovelas you watch on TV, articles you read in magazines and newspapers, the talk shows, the interviews; the songs you hear on the radio or in MTV; the poetry and the literature you are exposed to in school—in all these you will find a common theme: people look for happiness. Even at the movies, we like stories that end with the characters living "happily ever after." They all seem to be telling us it's better to be dead than unhappy.

2 The thing is, in our desire to find happiness we follow the route the majority use: consumerism.



3

While we swear that money can't buy us happiness, we can't deny either that money can buy us things that can give us happiness, right? So, to be happy, we work like mad: we dig and dig for more money to spend on food, clothing, education for our children, insurance for our family, etc.

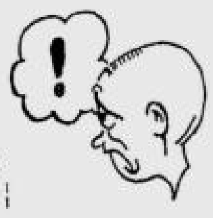
4 It makes us happy to have these things, but does our toil end there? No. We find ourselves working harder to earn more money to hire servants (so we have more time to relax and be happy)...

5 To buy costlier food...

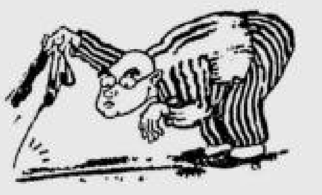
6...designer clothes...

7 ...a fabulous house... a faster car...

8 There are times we even "buy"good feelings brought by wild parties, alcohol, prohibited drugs and the attention of "interesting"strangers...



9 And yet, that giant question mark hovers our head: why is it that it feels that something is still missing?



10 Have you ever tried locating a missing house key? You turn the whole house upside down looking for it only to find out it's in your pocket...

11 We will find the "key to happiness" once we realize that happiness cannot be found in the things that money can buy, but precisely in the "things" that money can not buy.

12 Happiness comes to you when you realize that you are loved by God. It may come like a spark in your consciousness, brief and fleeting, but that realization is the key to happiness—and you are holding that key!

2 HAPPINESS

13 Know that in His great love, God has given you the power to win over any misfortune, then, you would always know where to go to be happy; then all of your possessions, knowledge and relationships will have a different meaning for you.

Gossip, indecent proposals plague burned-out gov't employee

By Tita Datu Puangco

FOR THE ANXIOUS PERSON AT WORK

I NEVER fail to read your column. I must say I do agree with most of your ideas. I got inspired to write you after reading a letter from a sender named Mr. Miserable. Recently, I have been thinking of resigning from the public office where I am presently connected. Prior to this job, I worked in private companies but my husband, who is also a government employee, advised me to apply in a government office because it is less demanding. I only have to work from Mondays to Fridays from 8 to 5, thus giving me more time for our growing kids.

I started working for a local elected official in July 2001. I was challenged by the tasks assigned to me and I tried to excel in everything. My experiences from private companies proved to be helpful because I have skills that most of my office mates don't have. Because of this, after just six months, my boss began giving me extra assignments. It came to a point that I was holding three different jobs in three different offices and getting paid for one. That's my first problem, I feel that I am underpaid and overworked.

Being the professional that I am, despite the difficulties, I tried to balance the three jobs and fortunately, I was able to meet all his expectations. The problem gave rise to another one when some of my officemates started feeling jealous of me because of all the attention I have been getting not only from our boss but from other officials as well. Malicious talks started to spread around the office, often linking me to other men, mostly top officials in our office. I tried not to mind them but things really got out of hand when things became too personal. I told everything to my husband so he won't be bothered with all the nasty talks about me.

Then, several months ago, I started receiving indecent proposals from some of the officials I am working for. I am not comfortable with my job right now, although I must admit that I have learned to love my job and I formed friendships with some of my officemates.

Honestly, I am confused at this moment. I am aware of the fact that looking for a new job is quite difficult nowadays but I'm sure I can look for another one. I want to go back to Law school but since I am holding three jobs, I can't find the time. I also want to take part-time job as a trainor or a consultant because I believe I am gifted with the ability and confidence to speak in front of people. I hope you could refer me to some companies which might need someone like me.

Busy Body

You are anxious about three things: 1) you are overworked but underpaid; 2) malicious talks that linking you with officials in your agency and 3) your desire to explore training or consultancy as a next job. Let me address each of your concerns in turn.

Courage

On your first problem, be prepared to be paid based on

GOSSIP/K12

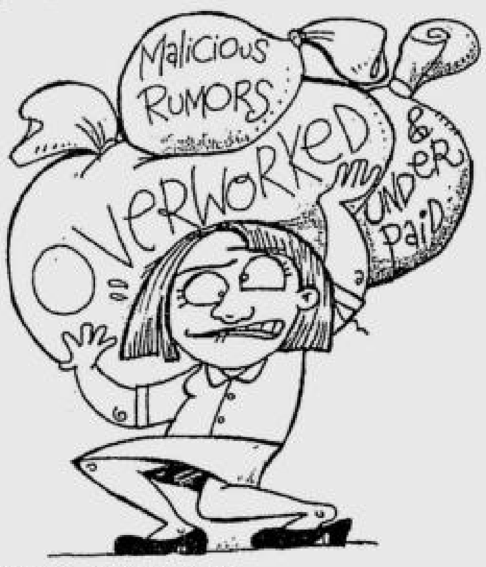


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

WHAT'S INSIDE

Working Wounded...K12

Teens and job fairs...K14

Motivation myths...K14

Divine workaholics

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

IF YOU'RE a super busy bee, this should come as a consolation: knowing that the apostles were such workaholics that they hardly had time to rest or eat. You're in glorious company, after all! (Now... reeeally?)

You have quotas to fill, deadlines to meet, people to please and gods to appease. Especially when you're winning in the rat race—ergo, 'successful' —you tend to equate rest with opportunities missed, and to count mealtime as lost time. You take instant noodles for lunch and forget about rest—until you break down. Or Rest in Peace.

Success has a way of dehumanizing people, reducing them into robots (that don't need to eat) or deluding them into thinking they're Superman (on call 24 hours a day, like God). Note that even the Son of God and His apostles needed food and rest—they who worked for God Himself who could have given them immunity from hunger and fatigue but didn't. How much more us regular guys whose employers may not at all be that divine and who work for rewards other than heavenly?

To keep our balance and remain at our productive best, we need sufficient food and respite from work. No work is so important that it must be allowed to deprive us of our right to be healthy and happy.

So, Successful People of the World, unite! Come down from your ivory tower—eat, relax and let your feet touch the ground—if only to remind yourselves that you're still human. *(Email the author at* avemaria@csi.com.ph*)*

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

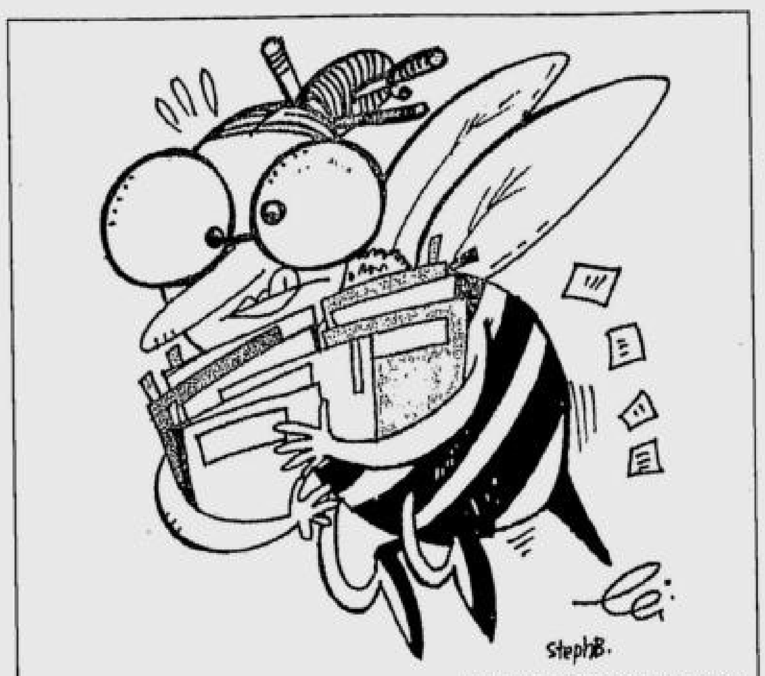


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

Gospel Mk 6:30-34

He said to them, 'Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while.' People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place.

Unconventional breaks

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB,DD

JESUS and His apostles were great workaholics! They worked so hard that "they had no opportunity even to eat." Yet, they did not succumb to the "burnout syndrome" that usually afflicts those who substitute work for the needed nutrients for the body and for the required rest and relaxation that a human person reasonably needs.

Jesus, as a good manager, provided His hardworking apostles with a break—they would go "...off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place."

Company outings and excursions to beautiful beaches or organized bowling tournaments in prestigious sports clubs among groups of workers are common activities planned by Management to provide some rest and relaxation for the work-laden labor force. These activities generally revive the joy and enthusiasm of the workers who in turn become more ready and eager to return to work after. However, this kind of activities could at times be overdone, and may dissipate the energies of workers, making them less focused in their jobs.

Are there alternative programs to restore the workers' energies to a high level? Leading the workers to be "by themselves to a deserted place" is definitely an unconventional type of rest and relaxation. Spiritual retreat or recollection provides workers time and space to go deeper into rebuilding their whole beings, packing up more strength and energy to go back to work and face with confidence life's greater struggles.

Spiritual exercises are moments of rest and relaxation with Jesus Himself! *(Email the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net*)*

sunday
INQUIRER
magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
July 20, 2003

Francisco T. Mañosa

The Architect as Filipino

The maestro of 'Filipinism' has been championing his cause for almost 50 years. Now, a new book documents the masterworks of the maverick who brought Filipino contemporary design to new heights

By Eric S. Caruncho
Photograph by Sonny Yabao

T 70, Francisco "Bobby" Mañosa is at the top of his game.

"I've never been busier," says the prominent architect, best known for designing the Tahanang Pilipino (better known as the Coconut Palace) and the Edsa shrine.

At an age when most men have settled into quiet retirement and a life of puttering around the house, Mañosa still goes to work every morning with fire in his belly. At the moment, he and the firm that bears his name, Francisco Mañosa & Partners, have their hands full overseeing the design requirements of the P4-billion, 1,000-bed New Medical City, scheduled for completion at the end of the year.

But hardly a day goes by without some new client calling about getting a Mañosa design. Last week it was the wife of a European minister. She had been to the posh, ultra-exclusive Palawan retreat Amanpulo, found out that Mañosa had designed it, and wanted a similar tranquil, tropical feel for the Caribbean island she happened to own. The week before, it was a young businessman who wanted to build a petting zoo right in the heart of the city. On occasion it's an old, satisfied client like Hong Kong movie mogul Run Run Shaw, who believes that Mañosa imparts good *feng shui* to his buildings. Or Jaime Cardinal Sin, who can count on the architect—a devout Catholic and a Papal knight, no less—to donate his services to the Church.

Most of the time it's a successful, upward-[illegible] couple who have made their pile and are ready to build their dream home in Punta Fuego, Tagaytay or Ayala Alabang.

To all of them, Mañosa says the same thing:

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Francisco

...from page 1

"You must let me inject Filipino design. I design Filipino, nothing else."

Ironically, it's the Filipino clients who usually balk. For the architect, turning them around to his way of thinking is half the battle, and half the fun.

"Usually, people come to me and say, 'I want a Japanese house.' Or 'Build me a Mediterranean house.' Lately, the craze has been for Balinese style. I tell them, but you're in the Philippines! Why don't you let me build you a Filipino house?"

It's an uphill struggle, but Mañosa is used to it, and has even come to enjoy it. In the end, if the client insists on a cookie-cutter foreign design, he is gently advised to look for another architect. But the ones who are swayed often become enthusiastic converts.

"The architectural dictum is, 'form follows function.' But here, form follows fashion."

A compulsive clipper and filer, he has an extensive collection of realty ads and lifestyle features selling Swiss chalets in Antipolo, French chateaus in Alabang, Spanish villas in Las Piñas, a Balinese village in Batangas. There are colonial American homes, stark concrete-and-steel Bauhaus boxes, California ranch homes—anything but Filipino.

Part of the problem is that few laymen can hear the words "Filipino architecture" without envisioning some horribly *baduy* retro-kitsch barrio fiesta monstrosity. This is quite at odds with Mañosa's vision of contemporary Philippine design, which is simple, elegant, attuned to the Filipino way of life and above all, supremely livable. Critics have called it "neo-vernacular," but the architect prefers to call it simply "Filipino contemporary." His designs embody forms and ideas found in traditional Filipino dwellings such as the *bahay kubo* and the *bahay na bato*, and make use of indigenous materials such as bamboo, coconut and local stone, but they are clearly of our time. There may be a hint of romantic nostalgia in some ornamental detail, but only because Filipinos are romantics prone to nostalgia. And these principles are just as applicable to a modern office building, a hotel or a resort complex as they are to a family house.

Circa 1958: the architect (center) with brothers Jose and Manuel Jr.

The grand staircase of the Tahanang Pilipino follows the overall hexagonal motif derived from the way coconut trunks are cut

"Culture is the dividing line," he is fond of saying. "In order to design Filipino, you must know what it means to be Filipino."

The point is not to rebuild the *bahay kubo* and the *bahay na bato*—their time had come and gone—but to learn from them. What was their essence? What made them Filipino? And how do you build modern structures that meet present-day needs while retaining that essence?

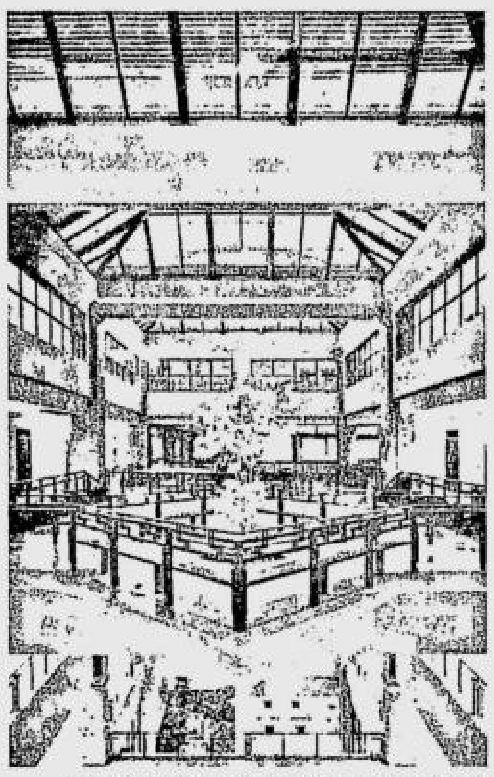
These are questions that he has been asking, and formulating answers to, for the last 50 years.

As a young man, Mañosa had wanted to be a musician (he still plays piano and vibes for The Executives jazz combo). But his father, a Harvard man and the country's first sanitary engineer, dissuaded him from such a frivolous pursuit. Architecture, the elder Mañosa suggested, would allow him the creative self-expression he craved, while still being a respectable and practical profession. Two other brothers, Manuel Jr. and Jose, also became architects.

As an architecture student at the University of Sto. Tomas in the early 1950s, he and his classmates —among them future pillars of Philippine architecture such as Leandro Locsin and Rodrigo Perez III —were already debating with their teachers whether there was such a thing as Filipino architecture. At the time, the *bahay kubo* and the *bahay na bato* were lumped together under the rubric "vernacular architecture," quaint objects of academic curiosity but hardly worthy of serious study. On the other hand, the ideas of Frank Lloyd Wright, Le Corbusier and the Bauhaus school still seemed fresh and bold, even if their landmark designs were already old hat in the West.

But in architecture, as well as in painting, sculpture and literature, the leading thinkers were beginning to assert a distinct Filipino identity, or at least, the need for one.

"Long before Magellan, our ancestors were already living in the *bahay kubo*," says Mañosa. "Five hundred years ago, the Spaniards came, and developed the *bahay na bato*. One hundred years ago, the Americans came, and brought bungalows and concrete buildings. Today, just drive an hour outside of Manila, and you'll see people living in the same *bahay kubo*."



Quadrangle of The Ateneo Professional School is based on the concept of a "campus within a building"

His point is not that the poor stay poor, but that form follows function. Vernacular structures have remained unchanged because they worked: the *bahay kubo*'s high-pitched roof shed rain and provided ample room for warm air to escape as cooling breezes entered through the slatted bamboo floor and walls. Resilient bamboo posts flexed to withstand typhoons and the occasional earthquake. Renewing the structure was a simple matter of cutting a few fresh poles from a nearby forest to replace old ones, or weaving a new roof from the abundant nipa leaves—well within the means of even the poorest farmer.

"Three factors make architecture truly Filipino," says Mañosa. "Filipino values, Philippine climate, and the use of indigenous materials." By taking these factors into consideration, the architect can create designs that reflect not only a sense of place, but of the present time.

After graduating from UST, he joined the family firm—the Mañosa Brothers—and started to give these ideas form. An early neo-vernacular design success was the Sulo restaurant in Makati, whose steep, Maranao-inspired roof was a 1960s landmark.

Mañosa's stint with his brothers culminated in the design for the San Miguel Corporation building in 1975. Inspired by the Banaue rice terraces, the San Miguel building made full use of Filipino design elements in a thoroughly modern, steel, glass and concrete structure that was also climate-responsive. The extensive use of greenery and slanting windows provided passive cooling and illumination.

The following year, Mañosa struck out on his own, forming Mañosa & Partners. Almost immediately, he was faced with his most demanding—and controversial—project.

Then first lady Imelda Marcos had been on a building spree, willing her utopian vision of a City of Man into existence. His old classmate, Lindy Locsin, had been her most favored architect, designing the Cultural Center, the Folk Arts Theater and the Philippine International Convention Center in short order on land reclaimed from Manila Bay. Imelda wanted a showcase of the best of the Philippines, a 100 percent Filipino mansion which would also serve as a guest house for international artists performing at the CCP.

The brief for the Tahanang Pilipino was to use that most humble and common of materials, the coconut, and to demonstrate the versatility that made it the Tree of Life of the tropics. After a feverish 14 months, during which the architect's design skills were stretched to their limit, and at a reported cost of P37 million—funds provided mostly by the Philippine Coconut Authority and the United Coconut Planters Bank—Mañosa turned the "Coconut Palace" over to its caretakers.

The embodiment of Philippine baroque sensibility, the Tahanang Pilipino was the apotheosis of the *bahay kubo* and the *bahay na bato*, executed in coconut, bamboo, rattan, capiz and narra. Every surface was inlaid, carved, polished, embellished. Given carte blanche, the architect was able to test and refine his ideas. Beyond the practical challenges that it presented, the Tahanang Pilipino was the hothouse in which Mañosa's architectural philosophy achieved its fullest flowering.

Ironically, Mañosa was also chosen to design the first major landmark of the post-Marcos era: the Shrine of Mary, Queen of Peace, otherwise known as the Edsa shrine. His first design was for a "people's basilica" that would make extensive use of bamboo and other indigenous materials. But objections of nearby commercial establishments and budget constraints led to its rejection. Instead, as he often does, Mañosa turned the design around, creating a series of tiered plazas that placed the church underground.

Apart from religious structures, Mañosa has earned an international reputation for his distinctively Asian resorts, among them the Samal-inspired Pearl Farm in Davao and Amanpulo in Palawan, whose sumptuous *casitas*, its pampered residents would be surprised to know, are patterned after the humble *bahay kubo*.

Because of his avowed "Filipinism" (Mañosa's term), the architect is also often called upon to design the government's Philippine pavilions in international expositions and fairs.

Recent designs for institutional structures include the Aquino Center in Hacienda Luisita and the Ateneo Professional School in Rockwell Center, both of which exhibit familiar Mañosa hallmarks: design elements updating traditional forms, the use of indigenous materials, a feeling of spaciousness and light reflecting the Filipino virtue of *aliwalas* (openness).

As a family man, however, the architect retains a special fondness for designing homes. Right now, he is rubbing his hands with glee over a model for a modest three-bedroom house he has designed for his eldest son Dino (another son, Angelo, is following in his footsteps as an architect).

"I've taken the traditional design for a house and turned it on its head," he explains. "Usually, you have the ground floor with a living room, kitchen and dining room, then the second floor with the bedrooms, then the roof, and a garden outside. Here the bedrooms are on the ground floor, the living and dining areas are on the second floor—and the roof is the garden! So your garden is almost as big as the lot, and you even have space for a spa!"

The kernel for the idea, visitors might be surprised to learn, came from talking with squatters about how they built their shanties.

"You learn something new everyday that you can apply to architecture," says Mañosa. More than anything, this seems to be at the root of the architect's success: his boundless enthusiasm and the almost childlike element of play he brings to his work.

Critics have not always been kind to Mañosa; some consider his neo-vernacular style overly nostalgic, and his flair for ornamentation as bordering on kitsch. But the architect designs spaces for people to live in, not critics. His designs are "warm" as opposed to classically cool, maximalist as opposed to minimalist, people-friendly. In short, his designs reflect a distinctly Pinoy sensibility.

Next month, Mañosa celebrates a landmark of sorts when the first summation of his life's work is published. "Designing Filipino: The Architecture of Francisco Mañosa" is a large-format book produced by the Tukod Foundation. It is a largely photographic survey of the architect's major works.

But Mañosa is far from ready to rest on his laurels.

"An interviewer asked me once what I considered my best project," he says. "I told him, 'My next one.'"

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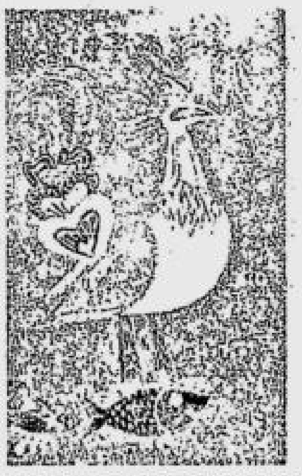


VISIONS OF GEMS AND MYTHICAL BIRDS
Handprints and mixed media art pieces of Virgilio "Pandy" Aviado which focus on the Sarimanok as well as gems and stones as subjects. On view at The Tivoli, Mandarin Oriental, Manila from July 21 to August 22. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Song of Junayd

The road curves
toward you,

the pistil points
in your direction.

The bees hum their
honeyed song for you,

the grasses grow
between your feet.

The mountains brood
about you,

rising and falling,
the sun follows you.

You fill
even the empty spaces—

the black, desolate
wastes—

between the stars.

Danton Remoto

Dahil mas mahirap sumulat ng tula sa wikang Filipino

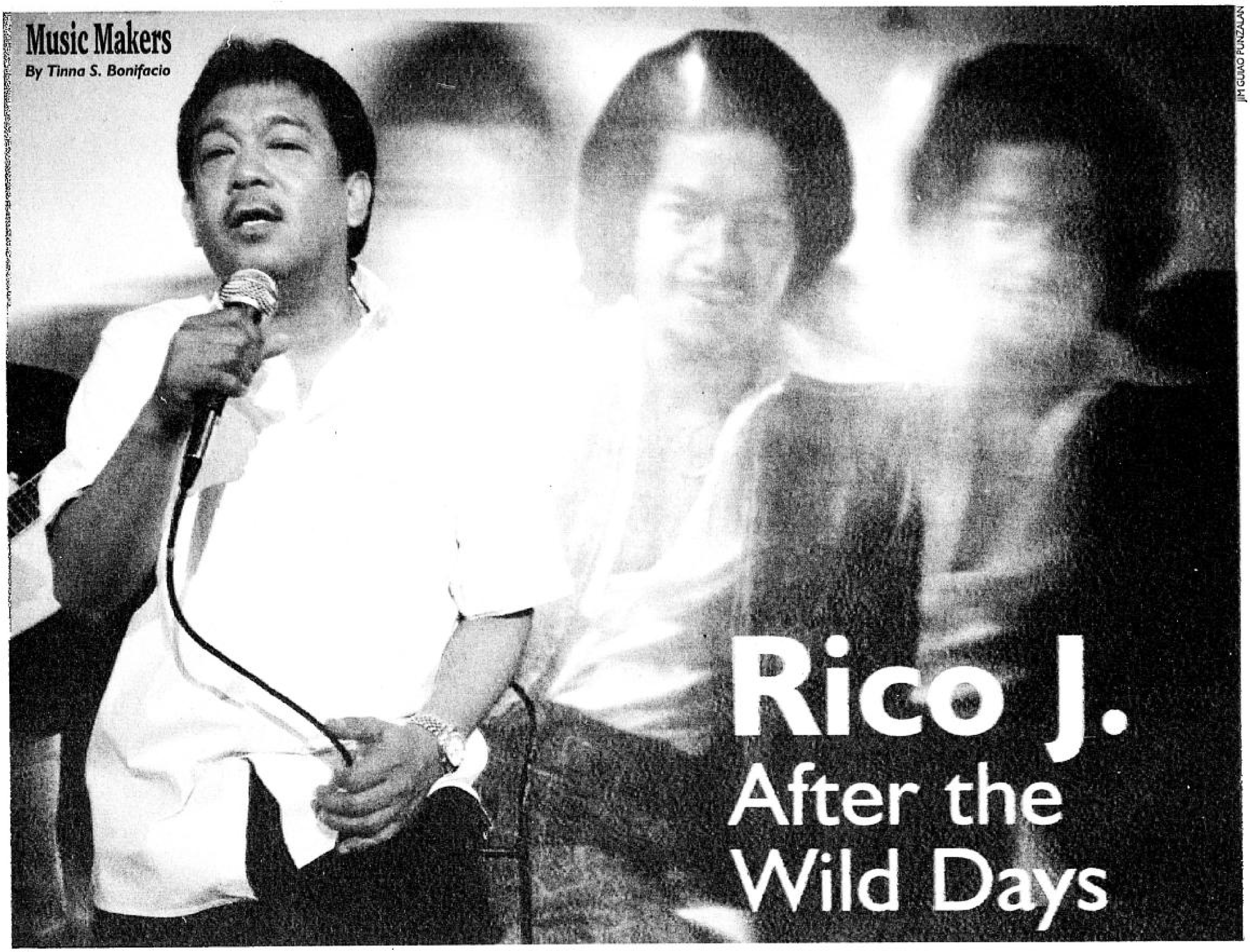
Saan pupulutin ang gasgas na panulaang
Pinagsalsalan ng tintang talamak
At ga-betsing balakubak?
Pumatak mula sa kinalmot na ulo
Na ang lulan lamang ay ang
Nangangating anit
At ang nagsasalimbatang salitaang
Nilunod ng pandiwa't parirala
Pampabigat sa pobreng table napkin
Na dinaganan ng nanginginig na pasensiya't
Pagkadismaya
At sa huli'y inabandona na lang
Upang mabasa mo't maisip
Na mas may katuturan pa rito
Ang isang makabagong butchikik

Roseller Kenneth R. Beltran

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

Music Makers

By Tinna S. Bonifacio



JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Rico J. After the Wild Days

PLAYBOY. Ladies' man. The Macho Guapito. To this day, the Rico J. Puno myth refuses to die. He may be 50 and have a receding hairline (a problem that's been temporarily covered, thanks to hair extensions), but the legendary charm hasn't diminished a bit. For what other way is there to explain how, at 50, and after four kids, he can still manage to land a girlfriend who's 23, single, beautiful and in the prime of her life?

Some people would attribute it to being either a man, or being Pinoy, or both. Probably. But it's also something uniquely Rico J: his personality and sense of humor. That's why women, no matter what their age, find him so irresistible.

Because of his sense of humor, he is a very easy person to like and trust—especially for women.

"I've always been a joker, and ladies like that," laughs Rico. "I'm a very happy person to be with. There's never a dull moment with me. Very spontaneous *ako kapag nagpapatawa* (when making people laugh). I think that's what they find attractive. When they start laughing at my jokes and enjoying my company, *doon sila nade*-develop (that's when they start liking me)."

Rico's girlfriend of four years, 23-year-old singer Krystine Valdez says that she, too, was attracted to Rico's personality. "He's a very jolly person who can lift your spirits no matter how down you are," she says.

However, the Rico J. of today has mellowed considerably compared to what he was like during the '70s. He was single, popular and rich, and lived the part. He pursued women relentlessly, inviting them to dinner in fancy hotels, flashy clubs and the best restaurants. The sky was the limit, and almost every woman was his for the taking.

Few could resist. After all, the man was no ordinary singer. He was the most popular Filipino artist of the '70s, someone who was accepted by the so-called *bakya* crowd, but who could also fill Manila's swankiest bars and hotel lounges. His first concert was held at the Cultural Center of the Philippines. In 1976, the Aliw Awards Foundation named him Most Promising Entertainer; the year after that, he bagged Aliw's top award, Entertainer of the Year. He was named Entertainer of the Year for three straight years. His songs became big hits. Rico J. Puno was on top of the world.

"Back then, if I found a woman attractive, all I would do was look her in the eye, and that was it," says Rico. "I didn't even hesitate. *Minsan nga, pagkatapos kong tingnan yung babae, hahawakan ko lang sa braso, at hihilahin ko na palabas. Alam na niya ang ibig sabihin n'on.* (Sometimes, after I looked the woman in the eye, I'd put my hand on her arm and just pull her away. She'd already know what that meant)."

There were times when, after a show, he'd leave with one woman and take her home to his condominium in Makati to spend the night. What the poor woman didn't know was that shortly after she left, another woman would come to take her place. "After my show that night, I left with one woman. She left my place at 10 a.m., and by 12 noon, a different woman arrived. Fortunately, no two women were ever there at the same time, or I would have been in big trouble" laughs Rico.

Even when courting his ex-wife, the former Doris Tayag, Rico liked to do things the grand way. He'd tell her, "*Susunduin kita bukas* (I'll pick you up tomorrow)," not even giving her a chance to refuse. At 5 p.m. the next day, he'd be waiting outside the bank where Doris worked, sitting at the wheel of a Stingray, a Cadillac or the latest model Mercedes Benz. But Rico didn't just dazzle with material things. At one of his concerts, while performing *"Kapalaran,"* he called Doris onstage, and sang to her right there.

As he prepares for a big concert with fellow icons of the '70s and '80s, the quintessential macho performer remembers the heady beginnings of his colorful career

Their marriage produced four children. Two of the kids are now college graduates. Eldest daughter Tosca (named after the famous Puccini opera) is now following in her dad's footsteps as a singer. He also has what he refers to as "and others," or kids by other women. "Waterloo *ko talaga ang mga babae noon* (Women were my Waterloo)," he confesses.

This happy-go-lucky existence ground to an abrupt halt with the fall of the Marcos government in 1986. Aside from the fact that his career was on the wane, Rico was identified with the Marcoses, and was shunned by people he thought were his friends. "In every man's life, *talagang dadating ang oras na dadaan ka sa pagsubok* (the time will come when you'll be beset by all sorts of trials)," says Rico. "I had zero confidence. I was lost. I think my family life broke down because of that."

Time and changing political tides restored Rico what he had lost. It also taught him who his real friends were. That, and age, have given him the kind of wisdom that he could never have learned from books.

"*Alam ko na kung saan ako nagkamali* (Now I know where I went wrong). I'll never go back to that situation again. At 50, I have a more mellow approach to life. I try to stay away from temptation. Whenever I feel tempted, I think, *masisira lang ang buhay ng babae* (it would just destroy the woman's life) and besides, I already have a girlfriend."

Most important, love for him is now associated with more than just sex. Life has sobered him up. "I only understood now what love really means," says Rico. "I've learned that there are different levels of love—there's love for a friend, for a brother, a mother, children—and that love doesn't always have to lead to sex. Now, I can say I know what life's really about."

This is the renaissance of Rico J. "I'm very happy with what I am today. Showbiz-wise, I'm okay. After 30 years in the business, I'm still in demand and my schedules are still packed. I'm also very comfortable with my political career (Rico J. is an incumbent Makati councilor). In November last year, I opened my own business (a bar called Corik's at the ground floor of Kingswood Condominium along Vito Cruz extension in Makati), and it's doing well *naman*."

Krystine says his changed attitude toward life was another thing that she found attractive about Rico. "Aside from his sincerity and sweetness to me, I fell in love with the big change he made. It's just the opposite of his popular image as a playboy. He is a responsible and caring man," she smiles.

One thing Rico is looking forward to is "Just Once," a reunion concert of the top '70s and '80s musical icons on August 2 at the Araneta Coliseum—Rico, Hajji Alejandro, Nonoy Zuñiga, Rey Valera, and Marco Sison. Expect Rico J. to belt out the hits that made him famous, including "The Way We Were," or his version of the Barbra Streisand hit, written with the famous Tagalog lyrics: *"Namamasyal pa sa Lunetaaaaa… ng walang peraaaaaa…"*.

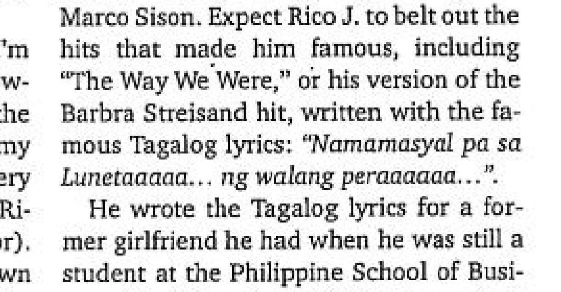
He wrote the Tagalog lyrics for a former girlfriend he had when he was still a student at the Philippine School of Business Administration (PSBA). It was their story. "She's married now, but she was my girlfriend for almost a year," recalls Rico. "At that time, I was so in love, but I was only a student, so I really had no money. That's how I wrote that line. We really used to date in Luneta, because it was the only place I could afford to go. *Totoo talaga 'yon* (it's really true)."

That song changed Rico's life. And people still know it. That night at Corik's, some members of the audience—who were probably not even born when the song became a hit—applauded when he climbed the stage to sing it. This, dear readers, is Rico J. reborn.

Backpages

Heartthrob Hotdogs

Even then, many knew that Jojo Lastimosa, Jerry Codinera, and Alvin Patrimonio would join the ranks of PBA demigods



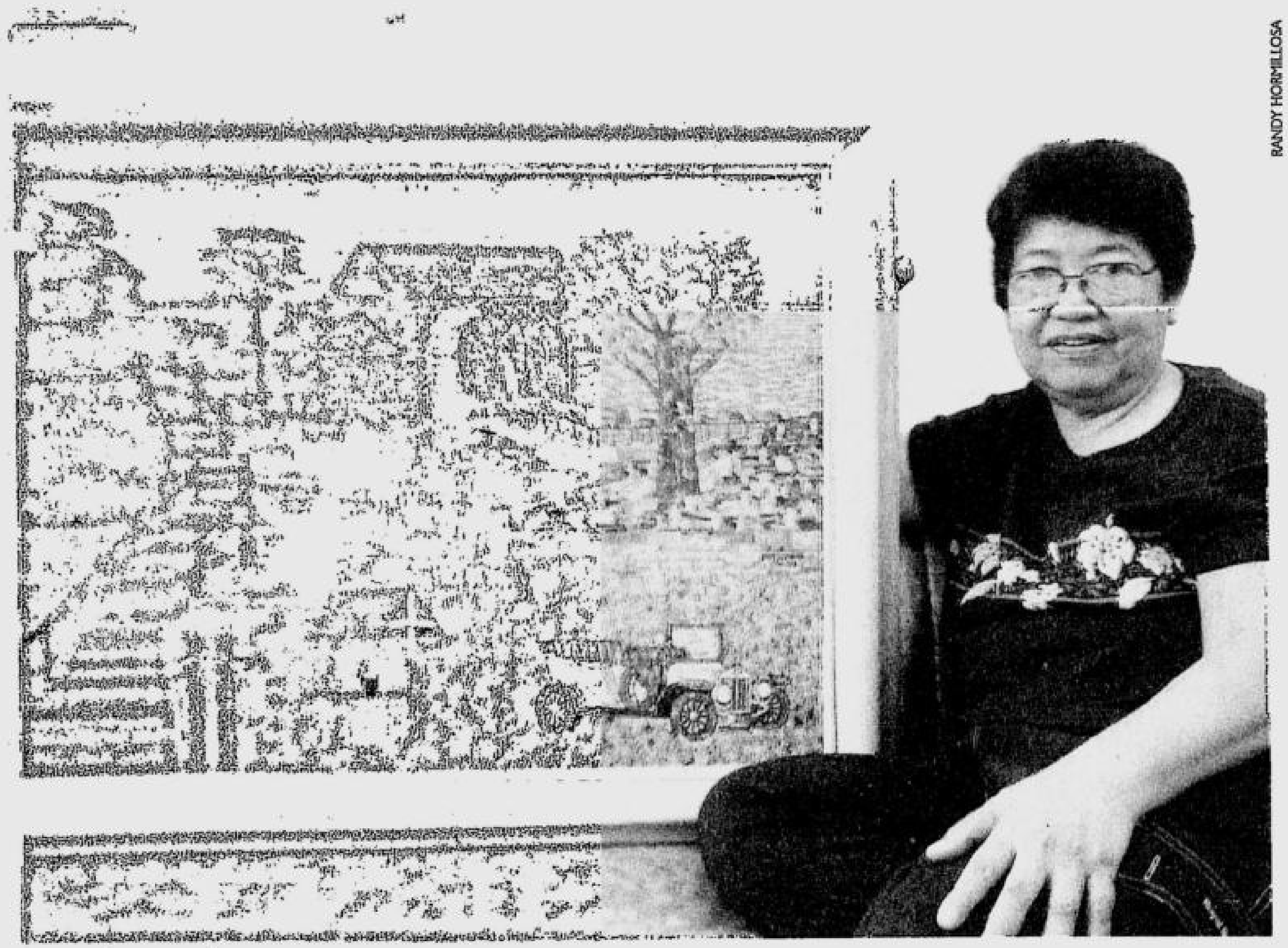
The cover subjects of SIM's July 17, 1988 issue, this trio of Purefoods rookies was the hottest sensation on and off the hardcourt. In this issue, they talked about life spent away from playing pro ball. Jojo was than already a happy husband and father. Jerry was a single guy who didn't socialize much, while Alvin lived the life of the happy-go-lucky bachelor. Time proved that these cagers weren't just one-hit basketball wonders, they were here to stay. "Jolas" Lastimosa recently retired after playing for Alaska. "Defense Minister" Codiñera is now with the FedEx Express, and "The Captain" Patrimonio is still with Purefoods, with four MVP titles under his belt. Just as sure, sooner or later, these demigods will join PBA's hall of fame.

Abigail S. Austriaco

Artwatch

By Lani T. Montreal

Stamping Her Class


RANDY HORMILLOSA

For artist, former banker, and happy retiree Nenuca Suzara, the little things literally make the big picture

"I ALWAYS appreciate the details. I try to capture in my pieces the small leaf, the splash of water, the ripple on the river." Corazon "Nenuca" Suzara may not be the first artist to say this, but what gives weight to her words is the fact that she doesn't use the usual medium of oil, watercolor or acrylic in her work. Instead, she uses postage stamps. Yes, those little square pieces of gummed paper you put on the upper right side of the envelope when sending letters and packages. She prefers vintage stamps, those that have more color and variety and which sell for 20 centavos to P1.50 each from philatelists. Suzara has thousands of them in neatly labeled brown manila envelopes that take the place of tubes or jars that oil paint comes in.

"Nowadays, the stamps that they print are so bland," she complains. "I have no use for those that have faces of presidents on them."

On the wall of her humble home hangs one of her works. It is a picture of exotic aquarium fishes—graceful angel fish, colorful clown fish among others—rendered in vari-colored stamps and finished with a coating of lacquer. "These are authentic replicas of real fishes. They're not imaginary." Done in 1999, the piece is titled "Don't Catch Me Even if You Can" and it is the artist's take on raising environmental awareness.

The painting reminds one of a computer-generated image that jumps at you in 3-D at a certain angle, or at that point when your eyes have stared at the replicated pixels for far too long it's almost like a reward. Except that Nenuca's art works are the other way around. You see the beautiful image first, perhaps of a leisurely stroll in Intramuros circa 1800s, and then upon closer inspection, you realize the image is generated by hundreds of carefully cut and coordinated postage stamps. There's the commemorative Katipunan postage stamp, Juan Luna's Spoliarium stamp, stamps produced during the Japanese occupation which, in mint condition, would sell for more than P10,000 each. "The most I paid for a stamp is P1.50," says the artist.

One might think banking and art are strange bedfellows. But whimsy and practicality seem to be wedded blissfully in Nenuca's personality. As a student at St. Theresa's College, she often won art contests, but enjoyed wrestling with numbers as well. One teacher suggested to her mother that she'd do well to take up either Fine Arts or Architecture in college, but Nenuca decided to take Banking and Finance instead. "In the Philippines, painting can hardly be considered a profession," she reasons out.

The course proved to be a wise choice as Nenuca excelled in the field, working at PCIBank for over 30 years in various capacities before retiring in 1989. "Banking is my first love. I was married to the bank," she says. Her art then might be considered her illicit lover as she used to devote her after-work hours making her stamp collages. After she retired from the bank, she taught banking and finance at what is now Jose Rizal College for 12 years. The eldest of three children, Nenuca attributes her industry to her mother, who singlehandedly raised them when her father died in Corregidor during World War II. But she claims it is she who started the art lineage in the family. Now she has a niece that does paper sculpture and a grandniece who's into animé illustrations.

Nenuca has been making collages for over 40 years now, beginning in 1960 when a painting she gave to her supervisor at the PCIBank received much praise. "It was just out of curiosity that I made a painting half in stamps and half in oil and gave it to my boss as a birthday gift." At the time, mixed media works were still uncommon. Her boss, Sixto Orosa, was impressed by the uniqueness of her work and suggested that she try an all-stamp rendition. Today, she has gotten so adept at her craft that it takes her less time to make a piece than it used to. "When I started, it would take me two months to finish a painting. Now it takes me less than four weeks. *Gamay ko na* (I've mastered it)," she says.

Still, she can't seem to make them fast enough to build a collection for a one-woman-exhibit. (The last time she had one was in the '70s at the opening of the PCIBank Laoag Branch.) Every piece she makes is sold even before she finishes it, and she has a few commissioned ones waiting to be done. For the SIM photo shoot, she had to borrow a neighbor's collection of her paintings to show a decent sampling of her work.

Everyday for at least five to six hours, this self-taught artist works at her stamp collages to the beat of salsa music with tweezers and magnifying lens in hand, lost in a world of her own. From a distance one might imagine her to be a surgeon performing a delicate operation, except it is a piece of plywood she's hunched over and there are only postage stamps at the end of her tweezers, which she gently glues on to the wood.

This "hobby," as she continues to call her artistry, has produced over 2000 individual works with dimensions of over 20" x 24." Only two hang on her walls. The rest are distributed in homes perhaps more extravagant than hers, hanging alongside other masterpieces. Others are overseas, including at a PCIBank Branch in New York that became a casualty of the World Trade Center bombing on September 11, 2000.

"Atong Ang (the businessman friend of ex-President Joseph Estrada) has about 20 varieties of my cockfighting series," she reveals. She laughs uneasily when asked how much her paintings cost, saying it varies according to size and difficulty. "I also charge friendship rates to people I know," adds Suzara.

She laments that she didn't keep an executive diary of all her paintings, not even pictures of her earlier works. It seems she is more concerned with her music, as she shows this writer her meticulously labeled cassette tapes, recordings of her favorite Latin music by artists like Joe Loco, Tito Puente, Eddie Cano, Lisa Ono, Laura Fygi. She tapes the latest salsa, samba or lambada from the radio while she does her paintings, listening to Jo San Diego's soothing voice as she announces the next song. "Boring *kung walang* sounds," the hip auntie declares.

And boredom is something Nenuca has no tolerance for. When she feels she's done enough work for the day, she hangs out with her nieces at the mall to window shop or watch the latest movie. She's been known to pack her bags at a moment's notice to go to the family's beach house in Zambales, if not to a romantic European city like Paris.

In a way, Nenuca's life is reflective of her art-making—spontaneous, with no need for drafts or models, zealous, and full—not a single postage stamp is unaccounted for.

The Word

By Fr. Ruben J. Villote

Jesus Therapy

Most of all, Jesus wanted his friends to be together for a while, silently listening to God's small voice in their hearts

> *"Let us come away to some quiet place,*
> *all by ourselves, and rest a while . . . "*
>
> *(Mark 6:31)*

In our world today, there is hardly any quiet place where we can be by our lonesome, and rest a while. Even some of our retreat houses are run like exclusive seminar venues which include in their retreat programs inputs by doctors, nutritionists, herbalists, artists, musicians, transcendental meditation gurus, New Age practitioners and, of course, a pastor or a priest for the worship services.

Even "traditional retreats" have slowly become so-called "integrated" or "holistic" retreats where the retreatants are encouraged to do group reflections on Creation Theology, Active Non-Violence, Justice and Peace, Pro-life and other politically-laced issues. And the retreatant comes away as disturbed, stressed out and confused as ever before.

When Jesus invited his friends to "come away to some quiet place, all by ourselves, and rest a while," He wanted them to share their life and work with one another, and quietly, prayerfully affirm the fruits of their common work, thank one another for their support; and praise God together for all that the Father had allowed to happen in the process of their ministry. Most of all, Jesus wanted his friends to be together for a while, silently listening to God's small voice in their hearts, speaking to them gratefully for responding to His call faithfully, and generously, up to that point. They must have come away from that simple "retreat" as spiritually refreshed and empowered as an "army in battle array."

Shepherd's Place, Greenfield Subdivision, Bukal, Dasmariñas, Cavite

A quiet place to come away to be by yourself, and rest a while . . .

Shepherd's Place is the CMY House of Prayer and Rest. We at the Center of Migrant Youth use it only for "prayer and rest" according to the intention of the owner—It is a place where we can go to live and rest quietly, prayfully and joyfully even for a while.

The migrant youth we are ministering to, had been displaced and endangered in the city, and needed a quiet place for listening and healing.

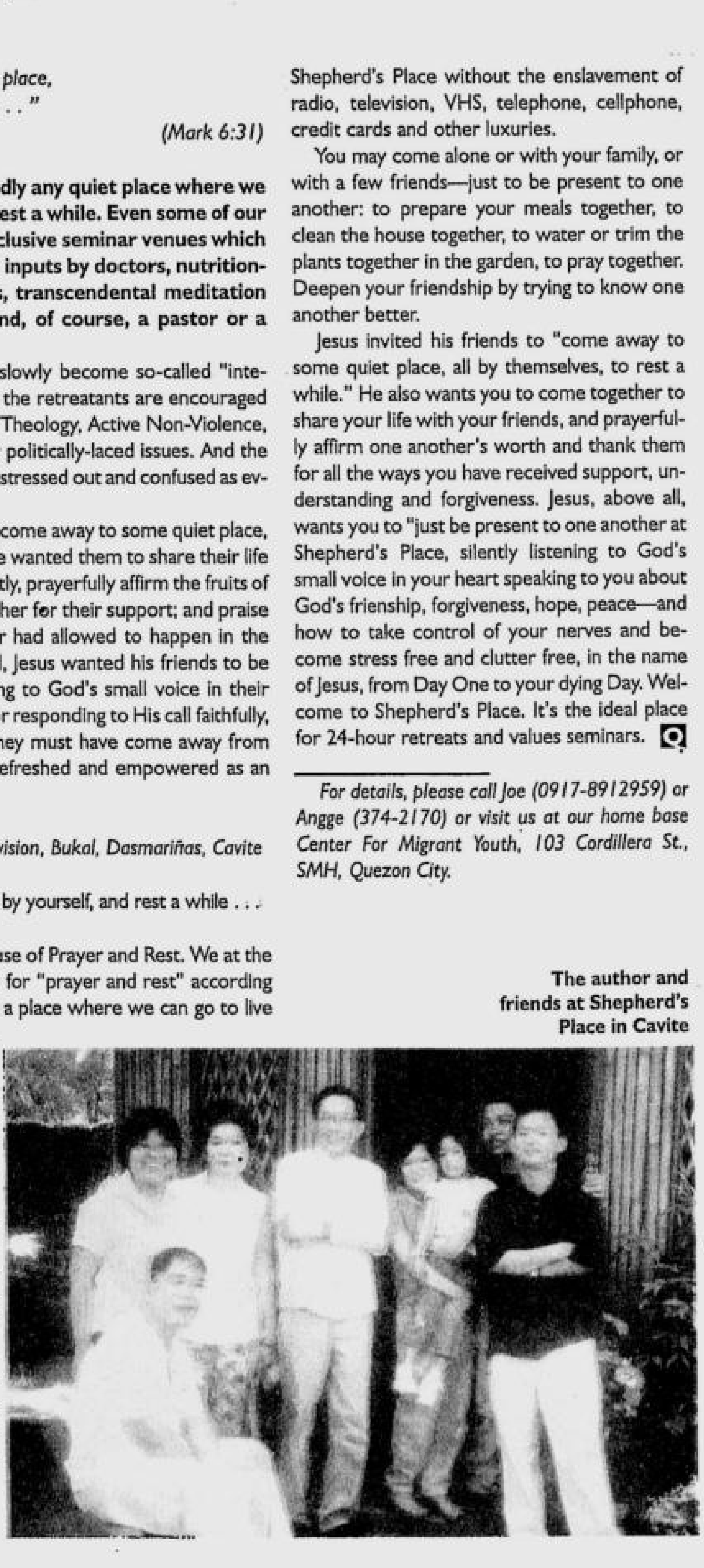
Shepherd's Place also intends to be a place where we can live simply in the spirit of the Beatitudes—away from and in contradiction to the values and lifestyle of the world ("consumerist, competitive, noisy, concupiscent and polluted culture of a decadent and dying civilization"). But be prepared to live gracefully and gratefully in Shepherd's Place without the enslavement of radio, television, VHS, telephone, cellphone, credit cards and other luxuries.

You may come alone or with your family, or with a few friends—just to be present to one another: to prepare your meals together, to clean the house together, to water or trim the plants together in the garden, to pray together. Deepen your friendship by trying to know one another better.

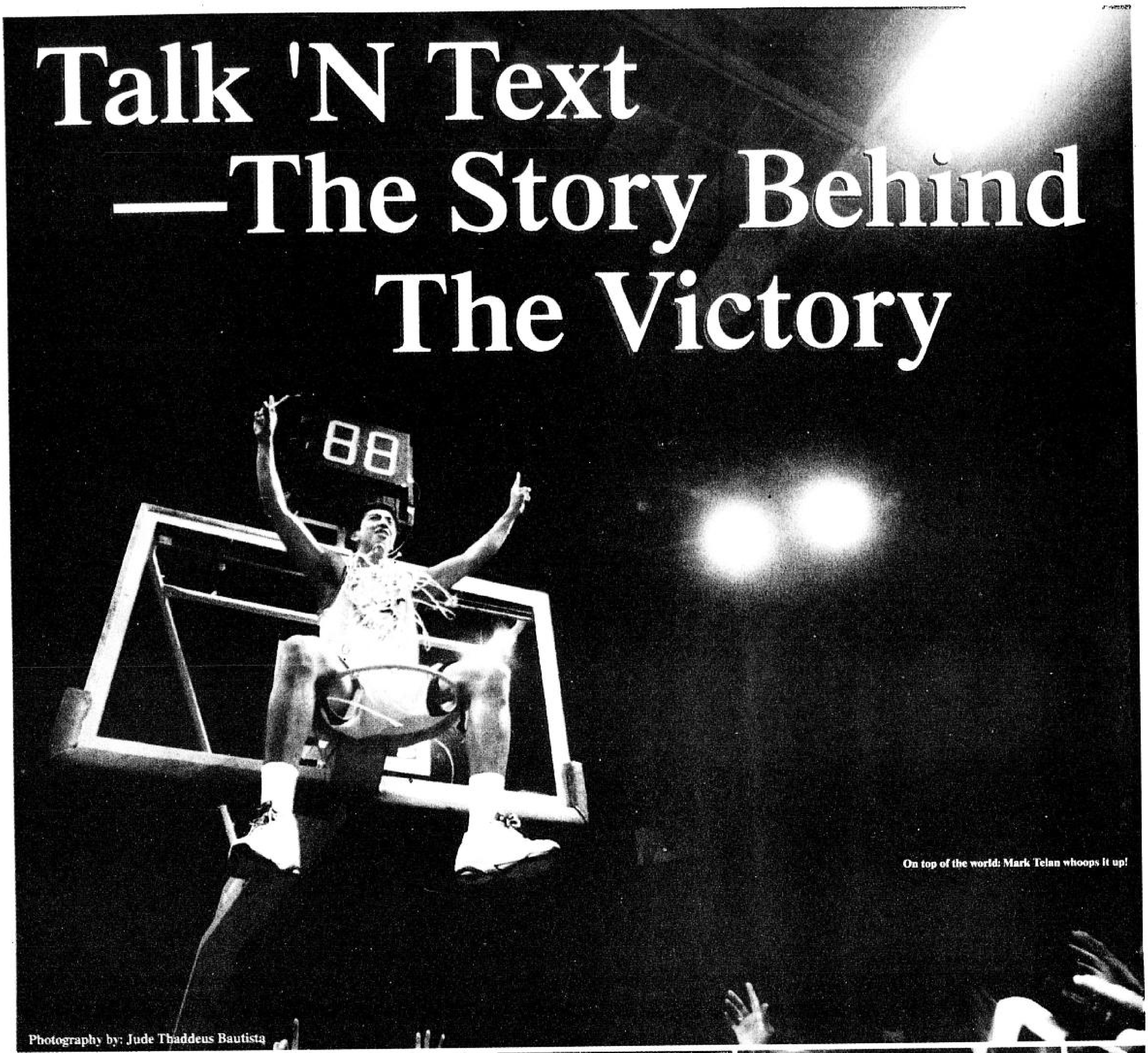
Jesus invited his friends to "come away to some quiet place, all by themselves, to rest a while." He also wants you to come together to share your life with your friends, and prayerfully affirm one another's worth and thank them for all the ways you have received support, understanding and forgiveness. Jesus, above all, wants you to "just be present to one another at Shepherd's Place, silently listening to God's small voice in your heart speaking to you about God's frienship, forgiveness, hope, peace—and how to take control of your nerves and become stress free and clutter free, in the name of Jesus, from Day One to your dying Day. Welcome to Shepherd's Place. It's the ideal place for 24-hour retreats and values seminars.

For details, please call Joe (0917-8912959) or Angge (374-2170) or visit us at our home base Center For Migrant Youth, 103 Cordillera St., SMH, Quezon City.

The author and friends at Shepherd's Place in Cavite



Talk 'N Text —The Story Behind The Victory



On top of the world: Mark Telan whoops it up!

Photography by: Jude Thaddeus Bautista

Now, that's the way to win a championship! The Talk 'N Text Phone Pals have beaten Coca-Cola Tigers in the 2003 PBA All-Filipino Cup championship in a knuckle-whitening 6 games. It was a struggle of titanic proportions, with the Tigers' experience and famed end-game poise deteriorating at the hands of young Phone Pals. Aside from the team itself, did anybody really expect them to even be in the Finals?

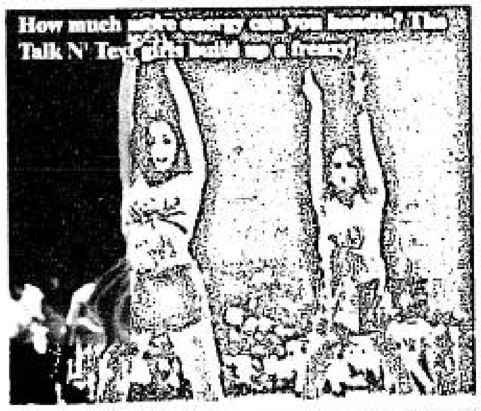
At the start of this year, American Paul Woolpert was the Talk 'N Text coach. Despite drafting power playing Harvey Carey and diminutive Jimmy Alapag, every self-proclaimed basketball expert knew that the Talk 'N Text's success remained on the broad shoulders of one man: Asi Taulava. "The Rock" as Asi has come to be known, was coming off a stint with the Philippine national team, where the experience of international competition was expected to make him better in every aspect of the game. In an elimination round that saw the Talk 'N Text's struggle for an identity, Woolpert eventually left the bench. That could have easily spelled doom for the team.

Enter Joel Banal. Fresh off title wins with Ateneo in the PBL and UAAP, Banal brought defensive toughness and a belief that all things are possible to the Phone Pals. Slowly but surely, the team began to gel as a unit. Getting ample production from Taulava, Alapag, Carey, rookie Kahi Villa, and veterans Bong Ravena, Mark Telan, Donbel Belano, Jojo Manalo, and Patrick Fran, Talk 'N Text stormed through the PBA eliminations and through the quarterfinals. For the first time in their history, Talk 'N Text was in the PBA semis.

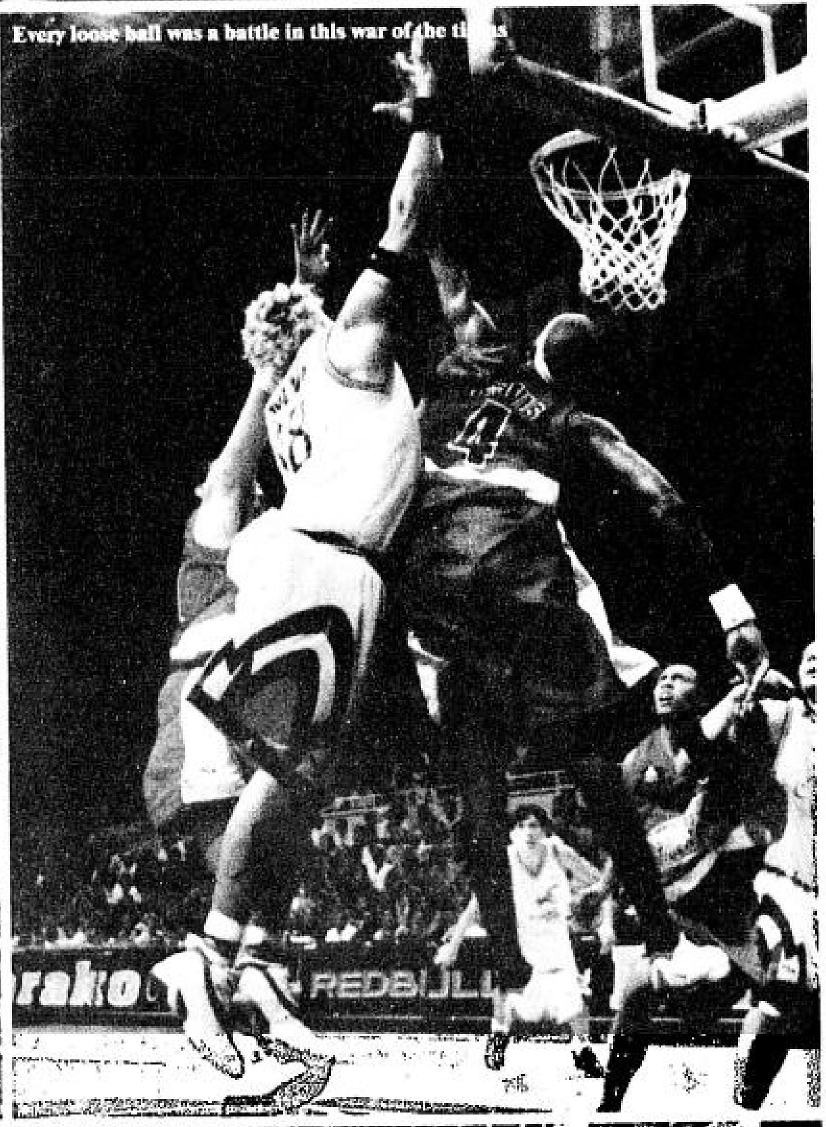
Squaring off against a gritty Alaska Aces squad, the team capitalized on Taulava's strength, Carey's determination, and Alapag's endgame heroics to beat the Aces in five thrilling games. Now, the time had come to face the ultimate test: the defending All-Filipino Cup champions, the Coca-Cola Tigers. To the Pals' credit, they put up one hell of a fight versus the Tigers. Despite being overwhelming underdogs and entering their first PBA Finals, Talk 'N Text never let Coca-Cola deflate their confidence. In the face of double- and triple-teams on Taulava, as well as constant pressure on Alapag's ball-handling, unlikely heroes rose to the challenge. Ravena, the former PBA Rookie of the Year, and Fran, perennial All-Defensive Team member made their presence felt.

When all the balloons had come falling on the stadium floor, one dream had come true: Talk 'N Text has entered the pantheon of PBA Champions. What's scary is that this team is still so young and getting to know each other! You can bet that the Phone Pals are still hungry for more titles, and carving out their own place in local basketball history.

There's a miracle to the story behind the unbelievably dramatic win of TnT at the PBA Finals last week. Beyond the seemingly made-for-TV plot, the odds were stacked against the team itself—the loss of ranks in the rosters, the hidden injuries, the momentum needed to vault past being down 2-0 in the series. Even beyond the cinematic two-point winning margin, Talk 'N Text's story is one not just of ultimate triumph. It is one of sheer mettle and endurance.



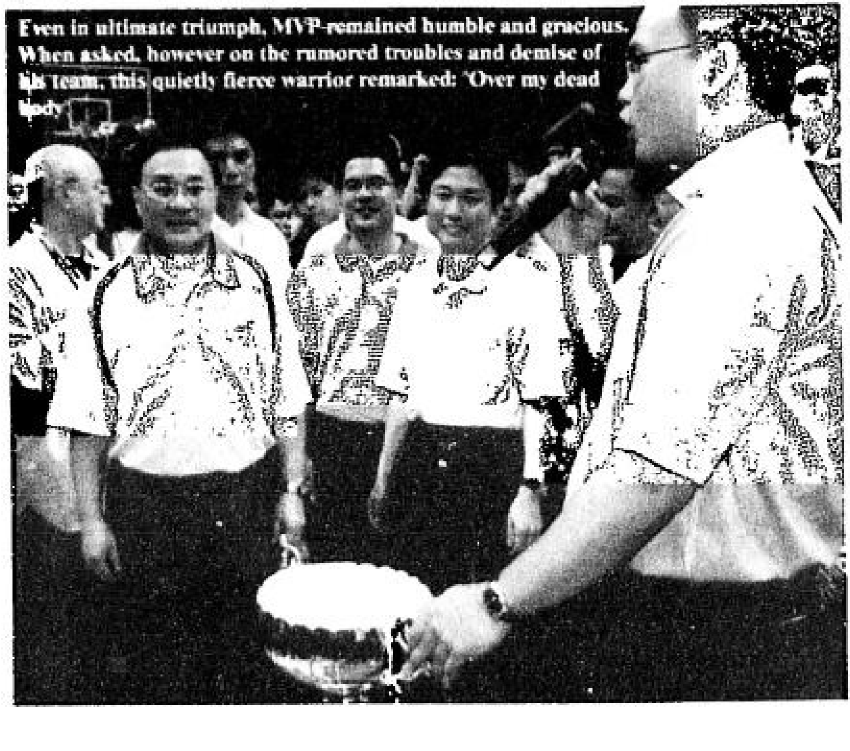
How much more energy can you handle? The Talk N' Text girls build up a frenzy!



Every loose ball was a battle in this war of the titans

According to coach Joel Banal, God "did the rest" for Talk N Text's miraculous win

Still another miracle story: Addict Mobile's Paolo Trillo gets the word from Mr. Clutch Bong Ravena.



Even in ultimate triumph, MVP remained humble and gracious. When asked, however on the rumored troubles and demise of his team, this quietly fierce warrior remarked: 'Over my dead body

General Banal lays out the tactics to the troops. You could cut the tension with a knife.

ADVT.

All in the Game

By Ruel S. De Vera

A Diamond's Best Friend

ROMY HOMILLADA

IT exec Ricky Gumaru pursues a lifelong passion for baseball through the unique Titans Baseball Club

WHAT exactly is a successful 40-year-old information technology executive doing standing in the piercing sunlight on a Saturday morning clad in a brightly colored jersey and wielding an aluminum bat? Following his life's passion: baseball.

For Frederick "Ricky" Gumaru, baseball is something worth pursuing even in a country that has gone gaga over basketball, where most people know what a center is but have no idea what a centerfielder does. Born and raised in Marikina, Ricky discovered the lure of the diamond when he was in fifth grade at Marist School, traditionally a baseball and softball power. "I didn't make the team that year," he smiles, "but I made it the year after as a catcher." That was the beginning of what would prove to be a lasting relationship between Ricky and the game of homeruns. He would continue to carry the Marist colors in high school, a stretch during which the school won one championship after another "for nine years straight" in two leagues.

By now, Ricky was totally absorbed by life in the diamond and after his high school graduation in 1979, he went on to wear the jersey of the Blue Batters of the Ateneo as he took up Business Management. Unlike the dominant teams of his high school, the struggling Ateneo team was a new experience for him. "In three years, we only won once, that was because the other team only dressed eight players—so we won by default." Ricky was the first baseball player from Marist to suit up for the Ateneo, but others would soon follow. In fact, Ricky points out, "six players from Marist are on the UAAP champion La Salle team and one was even responsible for winning the championship by hitting a homerun."

Ricky thought his baseball days were finally done as he graduated and took a job in the growing IT industry and took his MBA in 1988. He moved from one job to another, including a stint in real estate and development, all the while climbing the corporate ladder. Today, Ricky is the Chief Operating Officer of IT solutions provider SysGen, or Systems Generators Philippines, Inc.

Baseball returned to his life when a few friends coaxed him into suiting up again for a few games just for fun. "Somebody called and said, hey, there's a pickup game at the Ateneo and I was the oldest one." They played three games in all. Then two years ago, Ricky took part in a slo-pitch softball tournament. "It was 15 years after I had last played competitive ball and there I was, up against national team players, former national team players and players from Canlubang." Of course, it didn't go all the way he wanted. "I almost tore a ligament in my shoulder," Ricky winces. "But I did rediscover my love for baseball."

It was then that he discovered the unique proposition of the Titans Baseball Club, which actually held games at his home field at Marist. "So I go there for a game and found that it was actually designed for adult players or those who were already out of college and otherwise without an opportunity to play." Titans Baseball features a mix of younger players as well, including elementary and high school batters. "Titans Baseball enables folks like me to play and even non players."

Since then, Ricky has been devoting himself to the cause of Titans Baseball as an ambassador and adviser. The club has activities all year long. Last summer, Titans had a series of pre-tournament camps to help players get back into shape before their tournament proper. The summer tournament, dubbed the Titans League, kicked off last April and ended last month, crowning Antipolo as the champion. Everyone gets drafted and everyone gets to play. The range of participants is vast-ranging from complete newbies to former national players, with teams coming from as far as Taguig and Canlubang. "We even have girls in Titans and they play alongside the boys," Ricky says about the mix, noting that "the average age is about 20-30." His high school alma mater Marist fields a team and Ricky also finds the games a great chance to expand his network of contacts as President of the Marist Alumni Association.

"This was a major sport in the country until the early 1970s," Ricky explains, "and Titans' long-term vision is to put the fun back into baseball." As Titans grows, Ricky sees enough people joining their group so that "ten years from now we can have a competitive league and, yes, I see baseball back on the Philippine map." His involvement with Titans is because he simply wants to play again and because he wants to do his part to help the sport grow. "Between basketball and baseball we have a better chance of winning in baseball," he explains. "We don't have the height but in baseball, standing 5' 8" is good enough. Obviously it's going to take a lot of effort but it can happen."

Eventually, Ricky dreams of the day when a Filipino can play in the American major leagues. "I'd like to see the time when scouts come here because they know that there's talent here." The only player of Filipino descent to play in major league baseball was Benny Agbayani, formerly of the New York Mets and Colorado Rockies. "But there are a lot of Asians in the big leagues now," Ricky emphasizes, naming Seattle's Ichiro and New York Yankee Matsui.

Ricky is among a small group of devoted people who help out Titans Commissioner Bacchus Ledesma. After the June tournament, the Titans Series begins in August and runs until October. Membership in Titans Baseball only costs P500 a year and games are played at Marist, Canlubang and the University of the Philppines in Diliman. Up next is an exhibition game against a visiting team from Singapore in August.

Fortunately, Titans Baseball is starting to get some much-needed help "We would like to thank the PSC chairman Eric Buhain for approving the free use of Rizal Memorial Coliseum from the second to the fourth week of June."

Though he carries the burning love for baseball in him, Ricky has not been able to pass it on to his three daughters. "No, they don't play baseball and I'm not a baseball dad," he chuckles. "I'm more the drama club dad. I bring them there and after a few minutes they already want to go home."

Yet he persists despite the seeming national apathy, despite the aches and pains. Ricky and the dedicated die-hards of Titans Baseball won't let this particular game end. "It's special because everybody's welcome," he enthuses. "Normally after college *kasi*, the kids stop playing but the love of the game never dies."

For his own purposes, Ricky Gumaru, perhaps the oldest boy of summer, is still dreaming of endless days in the diamond. "I'm already 40 and 40 pounds overweight but I hope I can still play the game until I'm 60."

For inquiries, you can log on to http://www.titansbaseballclub.org.

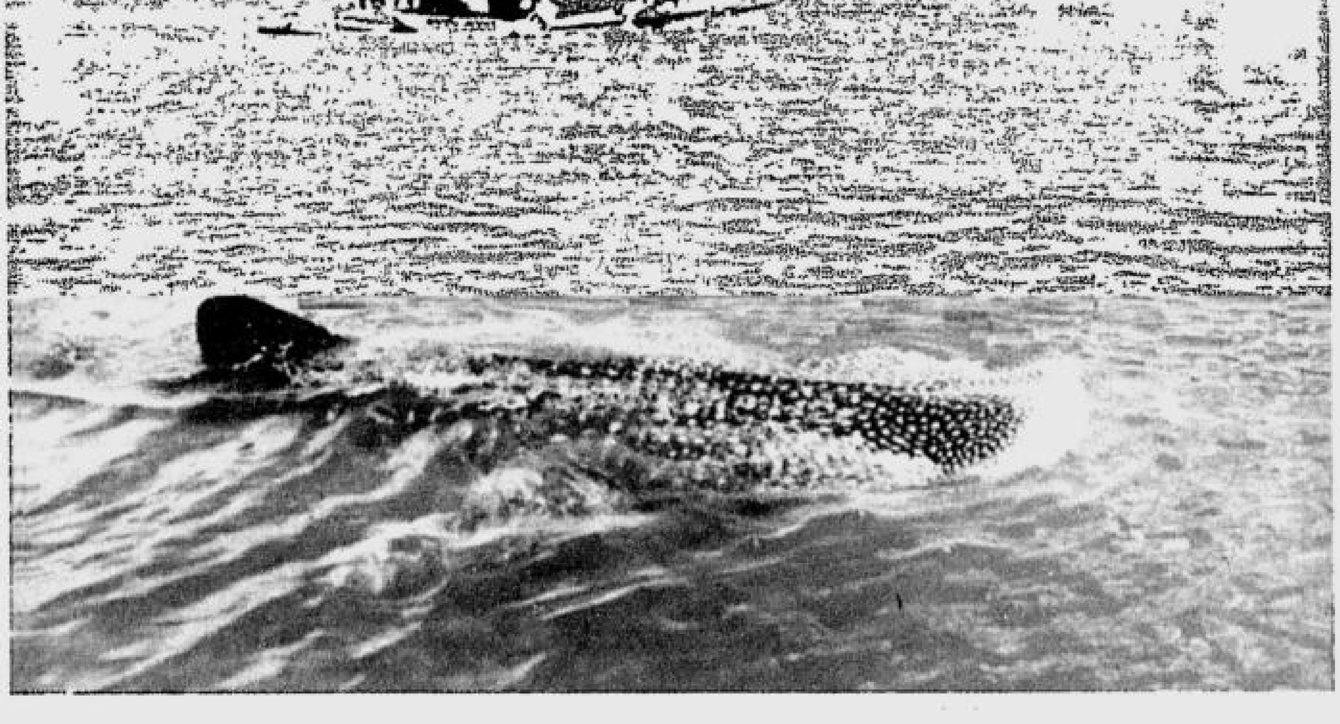
Giving Guide

Beyond the Usual

Believe it or not, it's nearing Christmas again, and what better way to celebrate the spirit of giving than by giving to those truly in need? SIM will regularly feature nonprofit groups that always appreciate any kind of help for their needy wards. It is never too early to begin the season of giving to the less fortunate. Let's start now.

- **Community-based Whale Shark Ecotourism and Coastal Resource Management Project** in Donsol, Sorsogon: The Worldwide Fund for Nature (WWF) has continued to involve more sectors in Donsol, Sorsogon to protect whale sharks and the local fisheries through responsible eco-tourism and coastal resource management. The project in Donsol aims to create a model for whale shark conservation that can be replicated in other parts of the Philippines and benefits the Municipal Tourism office of Donsol, Donsol Boat Operators Association and Butanding Interaction Officers. They need: life jackets, sunglasses, masks and snorkels, fins, desktop computer and printer as well as handheld radios. For donations, please contact the project's team leader, Ruel Pine at rpine@wwf.org.ph or call tel. nos. 929-1258, 920-7923 or 920-7926.
- **Immaculate Conception Parish-Persons with Disabilities Program:** This group sponsors the yearly "*Pasko sa May K*—Christmas cheers for the Handicapped" and Christmas caroling to benefit hearing impaired youth and adults. They need food items, gift items, art supplies, sports equipment as well as tables and chairs. For donations, call 641-1784.
- **Rotary Center Day Care Center:** This day care center organizes an annual Christmas party for children and families living in Barangay Commonwealth, Payatas, Batasan Hills and Bagong Silang. They need food, gifts, education materials, toiletries, school supplies, art materials, books, furniture, educational VHS tapes or VCDs, vitamins, towels, children's clothes and underwear as well as sports items. For donations, call 430-7804
- **Tahanan Sta. Luisa:** A group that benefits female streetchildren aged 6-19, TSL funds a variety of programs ranging from visits to Enchanted Kingdom to parties and Christmas caroling. They need food, clothes, shoes, bedsheets, school supplies, armchairs, tables, sports equipment and office equipment, among others. For donations, please call 524-7804.

Aching to share? Here are some of the folks who need it most


PDI PHOTO

The Butanding Interaction Officers of the WWF's Donsol-based project could use some on-the-job equipment

This Week

Art

"Bungad," a two-man show by Marina Cruz and Rodel Garcia at the Donada Art Gallery, 201 Eagle Star Condominium, Fabian Dela Rosa St. Loyola Heights, Quezon City. Exhibit runs until July 31.

Facades, marks MM Yu's first one-person show until July 27 at the Finale Art Gallery, 4th level, SM Megamall, Bldg. A, Mandaluyong.

Carating-Lindslee... a two-man show presenting works by abstractionist Norberto "Lito" Carating and young talent Lindsay Lee. Until August 10 at the Donáda Art Gallery, 2618 RL Bldg., Donada St. cor. P. Ocampo St. (formerly Vito Cruz) Malate, Manila. For inquiries, call 400-0731(Manila)/928-9173(Quezon City Branch)/0917-8140201.

The Thomasites, a photographic exhibit focusing on the American teachers who came to the Philippines during the American colonial period. Until July 31 at the CCP 4th Floor Hallway. For inquiries, call the CCP Visual Arts Department at 832-1125 local 1504-1505.

Franco Laurel stars in "Honk! The Ugly Duckling"

Music

Listen to live jazz music performed by **Ding Basbas and the Upbeat Band** every Sunday until September 7, as you enjoy a sumptuous lunch at Paseo Uno, the newest restaurant at Mandarin Oriental Hotel,Makati City. .

Come and unwind in a cozy music lounge setting at **InterContinental Manila's Le Boulevardier**, where different showbands are featured each day of the week. New wave, disco, pop and music from the '70s and '80s are dished out by Kislev on Mondays, pop, jazz and R & B by the ROB(Rest of the Boys) on Tuesdays, songs from the '60s and '70s by the Moonstrucks on Wednesdays, '70s favorites from the Divas and REtroSPECT on Thursdays, R & B hits from the '60s, '70s and '80s from Rockin' Revival and Streetbeat on Fridays, and a nine-piece band party and easy listening music from Big on Saturdays.

Kammerchor Manila, one of the country's most versatile church choirs and a leading choral figure at the EDSA Shrine gears up for its first European concert tour via a series of special performances, starting at the historic San Lorenzo Ruiz Minor Basilica (Binondo Church) on July 25 (7 p.m.). This will be followed by a matinee show in Batangas July 27 at the Mount Malarayat Golf and Country Club (3 p.m.) and a farewell concert at the Philamlife Auditorium on August 3 (7 p.m.). For ticket inquiries, call Caesar Antonio at 632 4874, (0917)5371784, or Edwin Estrada at 834 3563, or e-mail at esestrada54@yahoo.com.

Concert at the Park presents "A Taste of Korea and Italy" today, 6 p.m. at the Rizal Park Open-Air Auditorium Manila. Trained in Milan Italy, soprano Dug Nam Seo from Korea offers a delightful evening of classical music at the park. Admission is free. For queries, call the Arts and Culture Division of the National Parks Development Committee at 526-8163/302-7374.

"MCO Arts Festival 2003" features the Metro Manila Community Orchestra (MMCO) in their 3rd year anniversary concert under the baton of Josefino "Chino" Toledo with soloist Aldrin Sison (flutist). Program also includes pieces by San Pedro, Britten, Ibert and Dvorak. On July 25, 7:30 p.m. at the Francisco Santiago Hall of Equitable PCIBank Tower I, Makati Avenue Corner H.V. dela Costa Street. Tickets at P300. Half-price discounts offered to and 20% to senior citizens. For inquiries, call the MCO Foundation at 818-1403 or 840-7000 locals 2630 and 2258, or e-mail at mcofoundation@netasia.net.

Onstage

TheatreNow, the laboratory arm of Gantimpala Theater Foundation (GTF), presents ***"Mabini, Utak ng Himagsikan,"*** on July 25, 26 and 27 at the Saint Cecilia's Hall of Saint Scholastica's College, Manila. For ticket inquiries, call 899-5745/896-3503.

"Honk! The Ugly Duckling" which won the Laurence Olivier Award for Best Musical in London is being staged by Trumpets at the Meralco Theater August 1 to September 7. Stars Franco Laurel, Carlo Orosa, Agot Isidro, Carla Martinez, Nanette Inventor, and Sheila Francisco backed-up by an ensemble of Trumpets performers. For ticket inquiries, call Ticketworld at 891-5610 or Trumpets at 633-5010.

Food

The international food frenzy at **The Richmonde Grill** intensifies with the newest additions to the luncheon buffet spread. Go loco over paella, pasta dishes, Mongolian barbecue, sushi, sashimi, and seafood. Only P600++, inclusive of coffee or tea. For inquiries and reservations, call The Richmonde Hotel at 638-7777 extension 3409.

Diners of Makati Shangri-La's **Inagiku Restaurant** are in for a rare culinary treat when it features an exotic Japanese culinary art form call Ikezukuri, or live sashimi, until July 31. For the three-week promotion, Inagiku's Executive Chef Kimito Katagiri, assisted by Chef Katsumoto Oike, will display their skill in this art by preparing Lapu- Lapu. For inquiries and reservations, call Makati Shangri-La's Restaurant Reservations and Information Center at 840-0884 or 813-8888 ext. 7588/7599.

Atbp

The Lopez Memorial Museum will hold a **Chinese painting workshop** facilitated by Prof. Arnold Esguerra from 9 a.m.-12 nn., on July 26, August 2 and 9. Fee is P3,500 including materials. For inquiries, call Fanny San Pedro at 631-2417.

Book sale to celebrate Filipino-American Friendship Day by New Day Publishers, a leading Filipiniana and religious publishing house. Titles on sale dwell on Fil-Am relations by diplomat-turned-author Lewis Gleeck Jr., a former US consul general to the Philippines and currently the editor of the American Historical Collection's Bulletin. For inquiries, call 928-8046 or 927-5982.

Join the **hands-on introductory course on polyester resin** (figurine making, fiberglass, stained glass, lamination, encapsulation and synthetic granite) on July 24-26. For inquiries, call Polymer Products at 671-9837.

World Foods Expo (WOFEX) will hold **WOFEX 2003** on August 6 to 9 at the World Trade Center. Over 600 exhibit displays of the best food and beverages from around the world await visitors of this biggest and most anticipated food show in the country. It will feature three exciting co-located events: the Baker's Fair, Foodmach Expo and Taste Expo. For inquiries, call Premier Events Plus Group, Inc. (PEP Group) at 436-4711 to 12, 929-7993 or 63, 436-4898 or e-mail info@pepgroup.com.

Mensa Philippines will hold another **testing session** on July 26, (Saturday), from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Private Room, Oakwood Premier Ayala Center, 6th Floor, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City. Exam takers may register and start the test anytime between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m. Bring a valid ID and the test fee of P400. Undergraduate students with valid student IDs get a discounted rate of P150. More information about the test is available at the website: http://ph.mensa.org/qualify.html. Interested parties may pre-register for the Mensa exam by providing their name and contact info beforehand to the e-mail address testing@ph.mensa.org (subject: July 26 testing). For over-the-phone pre-registration or questions, call Patrick Ocampo at 524-4611 loc. 450. Or simply visit the main Mensa website at http://www.mensa.org.

The first **World Exhibition and Congress on Animal Health and Nutrition** (WeCAN) is scheduled on August 21-23 at Mega Trade Halls 1 & 2, SM Megamall, Mandaluyong City. Activities include seminars, demonstrations, animal shows and some 150 exhibits. For inquiries, call 687-1610 / 694-3242 / 361-5738 or e-mail pvda_org@edsamail.com.ph or aware@edsamail.com.ph.

Sashimi at Makati Shangri-La's Inagiku Restaurant

Sign up for **The Art of Human Anatomy**, basic techniques & methods of creating human figures through the use of charcoal and acrylic paints. Instructor is Hector Mendoza, a modern freelance artist. Located at 713 J. Abad Santos St. San Juan Metro Manila. For inquiries, call 724-2366 and look for Gina.

The Nihongo Center Foundation (formerly known as the Nihongo Gakko of the Japan Information and Cultural Center, Embassy of Japan) is pleased to announce that applications for the new term (July-December) are now being accepted. For inquiries, call 735-3179/892-4916 to 19 or fax 735-3005 and 817-4064 or visit 3/F Philippines-Japan Frienship Center, 825 R. Papa St., University Belt, Sampaloc, Manila.

X-manila

Museo De La Salle of De La Salle University-Dasmariñas, Cavite will conduct a **Pencil Drawing Workshop** for students on July 30 as part of a series of museum workshops that would feature various arts and crafts such as paper mache, scrapbooking, candlemaking, and plaster sculpture. The workshop is open to 30 participants on a first-come-first-served basis. Registration fee is P150. For inquiries and reservations, call Cecille Gelicame at (046) 416-4397 or (02) 844-9116 local 3151 or e-mail museoctg@dasma.dlsu.edu.ph

Comic Dates with Rex Navarrete and Tim Tayag. Rex will perform at the Waterfront Hotel in Cebu on August 2. After finishing his series at the Comfort Room in June, Tim will kick off his out-of-town gigs at Dumaguete City (Siliman University, July 21), Iloilo City (UP Campus, July 23), Cebu (UP Campus, July 26), Tacloban City (UP Campus, July 26 & 28), and Davao (UP Campus, July 31). For bookings and inquiries, call GR Management at 722-7223, 722-8847, 722-4757 and 744-3490.

Sagada Traditions features recent photographs of a begnas ceremony by Tommy Hafalla and stoneware by Lope Bosaing at The Sanctuary Gallery at Maryknoll, Campo Sioco, Baguio City. Show runs until September 7. For inquiries, call (074)442-4602 or e-mail era@bgo.csi.com.ph.

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

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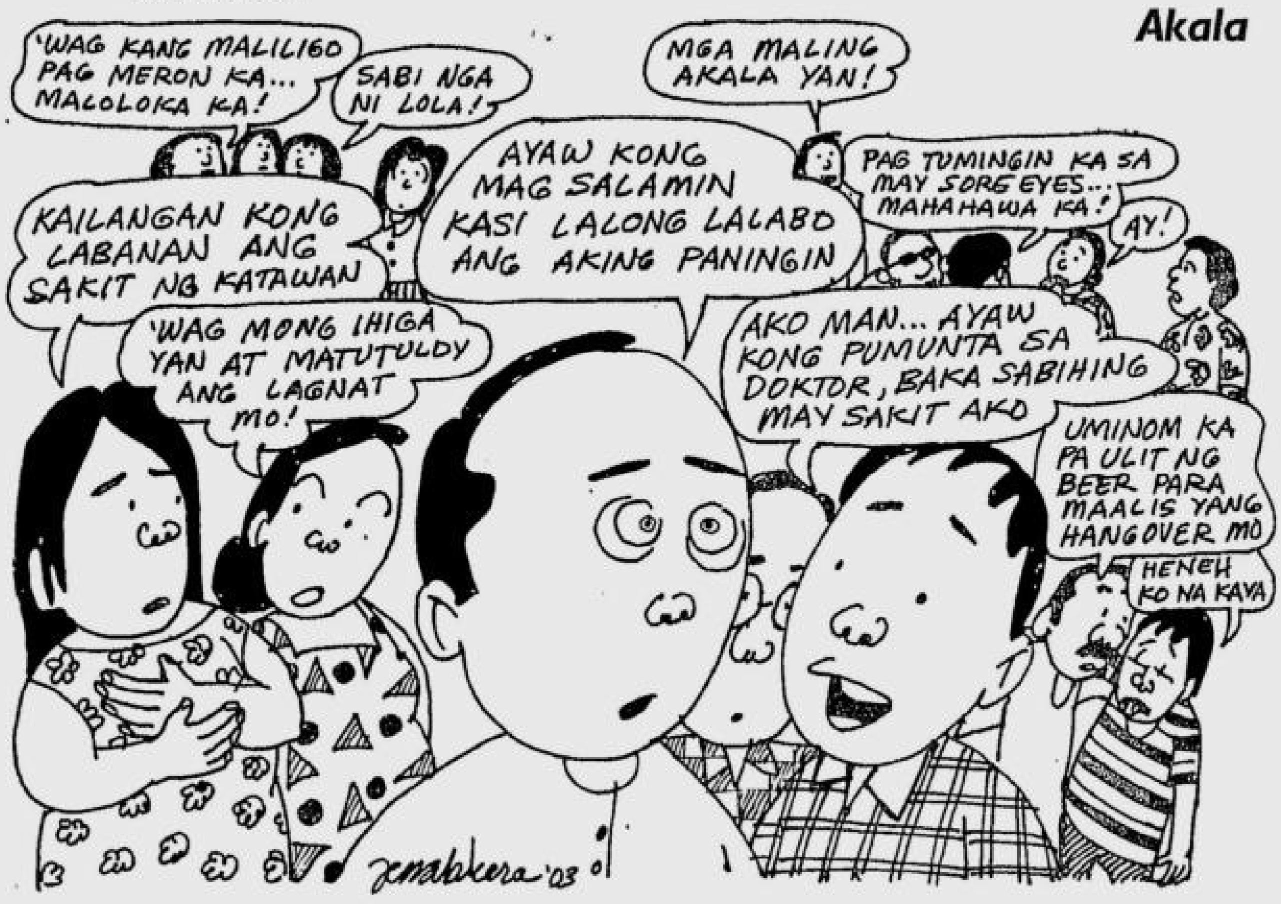
Pinoy Nga!

By Jess Abrera

Akala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MGA MALING AKALA YAN!
KAILANGAN KONG LABANAN ANG SAKIT NG KATAWAN
AYAW KONG MAG SALAMIN KASI LALONG LALABO ANG AKING PANINGIN
PAG TUMINGIN KA SA MAY SORE EYES... MAHAHAWA KA!
AY!
'WAG MONG IHIGA YAN AT MATUTULOY ANG LAGNAT MO!
AKO MAN... AYAW KONG PUMUNTA SA DOKTOR, BAKA SABIHING MAY SAKIT AKO
UMINOM KA PA ULIT NG BEER PARA MAALIS YANG HANGOVER MO
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